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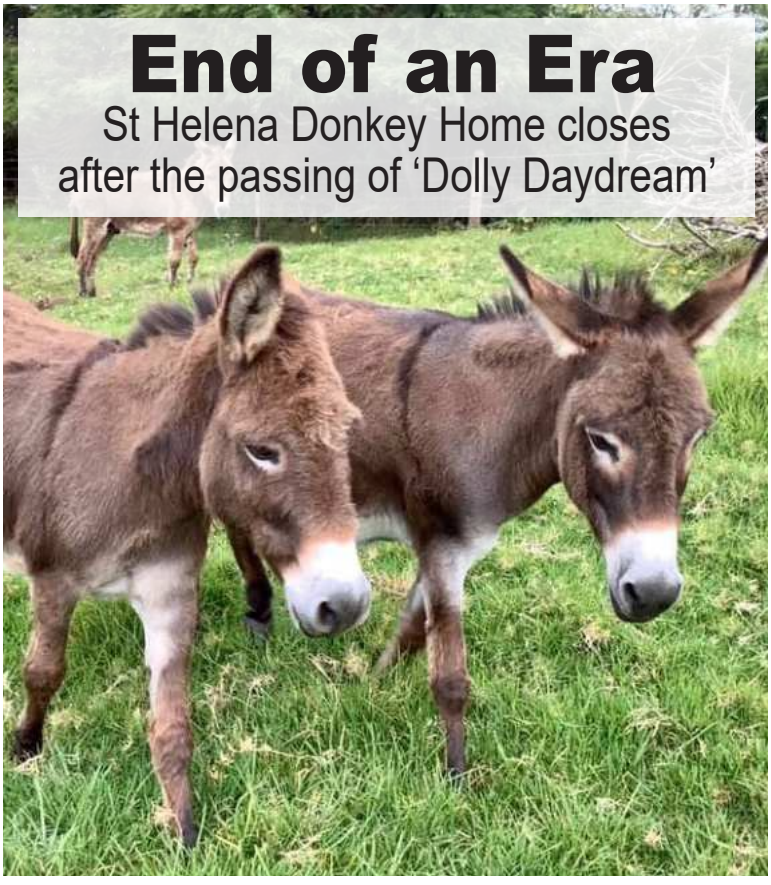






SHG "to move forward positively and constructively" with Sure SA Ltd after signing MoU for major telecommunications infrastructure upgrade project to begin in 2027 aiming for over 300mbs speeds – after opting to reject Sure for Maestro in 2022





OPINION

SENTINEL COMMENT

Donna Crowie, SAMS

Can you remember the times of the Walkman, Cassette Tapes, Discman, CD's, and then the MP3 Player? What about dial-up with that memorable tone - when you couldn't use the telephone while being on the internet? Then it went on to "checking the megabytes" making sure you don't go over your monthly package – couldn't go over or you would have to pay extra money! And not forgetting that free midnight window – weekends the internet was slow as everyone on it to download etc. Now look where we are today – a little faster internet, everyone moving to everything smart; tv's, phones and even adding additional smart devices to the home – not bad for a tiny island hey.

Comparing ourselves to the outside world – ok, we might not be on that scale yet, but we have improved and looking at the press release issued by SHG last week regarding the Sure signing an MOU to taking on the telecoms upgrade, seems like we will be getting even better which has been a long time coming.

As the songs says – "Things can only get better". Congratulations Sure!

Ending with something for you to think about - when you care about your work, it's incredibly easy to get caught up in the stress of wanting to achieve. We want to keep pushing, even when we are exhausted. But remember, you only have two hands, and you can't carry everything at once.

Excellence doesn't require sacrificing your health or your peace of mind.

Disconnecting after work and enjoying your time off isn't slacking—it's recharging.

By setting healthy boundaries and putting your well-being first, you aren't holding yourself back, you're actually giving yourself the fuel to build a career and a life you enjoy.

On a more local note, I bet there are many Saints who say Seals Corner (me included), but did you know it is actually 'Sealess Corner'?

Anyway, enjoy your weekend ahead and, most importantly, enjoy your edition of The Sentinel. Oh, and heads up, check out are October Sentinel deal inside!

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Sure Group CEO, Alistair Beak, expressed doubts about the Maestro project timeline in 2022 and is now proud to continue Sure's presence on the island through this new project agreement



Minister for Environment and Economic Development, Karl Thrower, was clear that while "this is a significant milestone; it is not the end of the process"

SHG "to move forward positively and constructively" with Sure SA Ltd after signing MoU for major telecommunications infrastructure upgrade project to begin in 2027 – after opting to reject Sure for Maestro back in 2022

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government (SHG) and current St Helena telecommunications provider, Sure South Atlantic Limited (Sure), have formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), marking a landmark step toward a comprehensive overhaul of the island's broadband and mobile infrastructure.



The Equiano subsea cable landed at Rupert's Beach in August 2021 and the full benefits of it this still to be realised on the island

Announced on Wednesday, 16 September, the agreement establishes a framework to boost island internet capability from around 20 Megabits per second (Mbps) up to over 300 Mbps, aiming to finally unlock the full potential of the Equiano subsea cable.

The proposed infrastructure project will be publicly-funded through a combination of British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) funding and the UK Government-funded Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP) for St Helena. SHG explained that "as part of accessing EDIP funding, the infrastructure project will be developed in accordance with EDIP standards."

One of the core principles of the proposed arrangement will see all new network assets purchased through the project remaining the property of SHG as critical national infrastructure. While equipment will be operated and maintained by Sure, assets will be transferred back to government ownership at the end of the licence term.

Crucially, SHG emphasised that signing this MoU does not grant Sure a new communications licence; with licensing and infrastructure remaining related, but separate, workstreams.

SHG noted how detailed negotiations on a long-term licence for Sure reached "an advanced stage" in June 2025 before concluding without a final agreement. However, securing funding has now enabled both parties to move forward with "one of the more ambitious options identified" during those original discussions, subject to EDIP "governance, assurance, and approval processes."

Minister for Environment and Economic Development, Karl Thrower, underscored that, while the signing marks progress, significant technical and administrative steps remain. "The signing of this MoU is an important step forward and, importantly, it demonstrates our intention to move forward positively and constructively in partnership with Sure," Minister Thrower stated. "But we also need to be clear about what today's announcement represents. This is a significant milestone; it is



Maestro enjoyed a short-lived presence on the island after SHG signed a contract with them in November 2022, with the arrangement being officially dissolved in 2024

not the end of the process. There is still a considerable amount of work ahead of us."

Continuing on, the Minister explained how "the infrastructure project must now progress through the appropriate EDIP assurance and approval processes," while "detailed commercial and contractual work still has to be completed, and the future telecommunications licence remains a separate piece of work."

Minister Thrower also reflected on the previous telecommunications infrastructure project; when Maestro St Helena signed a contract in November 2022 after being chosen by SHG, over Sure, to build the Island's fibre network following the arrival of the subsea cable. This domestic fibre network project was initially meant to be completed by 31 December 2023, however, due to deployment complications and other issues, the project faced delays and the commercial arrangements between the government and Maestro were ultimately dissolved in 2024.


Sure's island-based team will be central to executing the proposed 2027 network rollout

The decision to award the contract to Maestro at the time came despite alternative proposals put forward by Sure, which were ultimately rejected by Executive Council. At the time, the government defended the choice, stating it had chosen "the best option for St Helena's long-term future".

Among Sure's rejected bids was an innovative, fully self-funded proposal where the provider offered to build out the island's network using its established local team and hand over the entire infrastructure to SHG free of charge after ten years. Sure had already laid over 30 kilometres of fibre cable across the island prior to the tender process. Following the decision, Sure Group CEO, Alistair Beak, raised strong doubts over Maestro's target completion deadline of 31 December 2023, publicly warning that the chances of a new contractor building an island-wide network from scratch in just 13 months were "less than 1%".

As such, prior to the Maestro contract signing, Alistair urged Ministers to reconsider Sure's proposal and combine assets with its local workforce rather than risk a standalone build. Now, four years after turning down Sure's initial proposals, SHG has effectively come full circle, re-partnering with the island's sole provider to deliver the long-awaited connectivity upgrade.

"We have learnt lessons from the journey that has brought us to this point, including the previous fibre network project," Minister Thrower reflected. "That makes it even more important that we proceed carefully, maintain proper governance and are open with the public about both the opportunities ahead and the work that remains to be done."

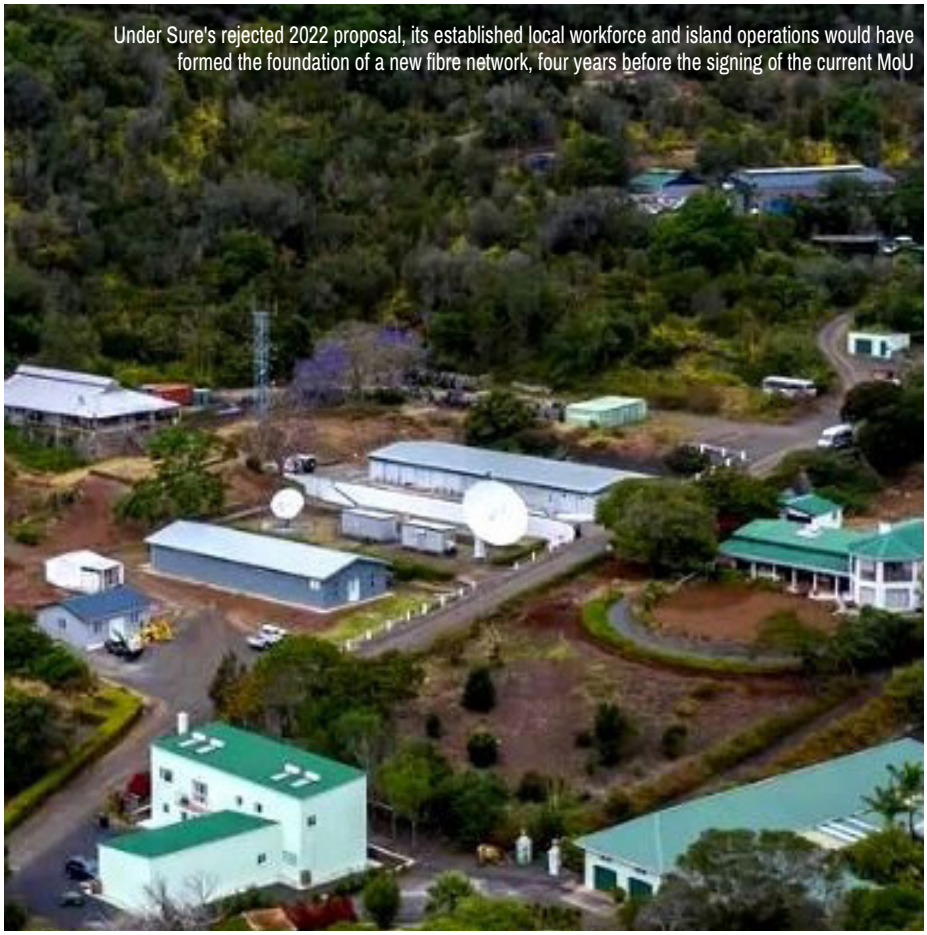
Minister Thrower said this new agreement with Sure seeks to "finally unlock" the potential of the Equiano Cable that landed at Rupert's back in 2021. "The option we are now seeking to progress allows us to finally unlock much more of the potential of the fibre-optic cable," he indicated. "Ultimately, the measure of success will not be the equipment we install or a headline broadband speed. It will be whether people across St Helena see better services, greater affordability and real improvements in their everyday lives."


Sure had already installed over 30 km of fibre across St Helena prior to the 2022 tender process

Speaking to the new agreement with SHG, Sure Group's CEO, Alistair, expressed pride in continuing the provider's presence on the island and outlined the project's operational ambitions. "We are incredibly proud to be continuing our long-standing partnership with the St Helena Government and to be entrusted with delivering this significant upgrade to the island's telecommunications infrastructure," he commented. "Working with our local team on St Helena, we will deliver a new generation of broadband services offering speeds of hundreds of megabits, alongside a significantly enhanced mobile network and upgraded services for businesses and Government."

Alistair went on to hint at what the new service will bring to the Island, once complete, noting that "faster speeds, greater coverage and improved reliability will provide a significantly better experience for customers and bring St Helena firmly

into the modern digital age."
Additionally, the Sure Group CEO highlighted the broader socio-economic impact across the community that will come from this project. "Importantly, this is about much more than faster broadband," he noted. "Better connectivity can create new opportunities for local businesses, support economic development and help enable the continued development of essential services such as education and healthcare."
To conclude, Alistair gave an indication of proposed timelines for the rollout of the project and Sure's ambitions for getting the Island connected to the newly upgraded network. "A transformation of this scale will take time to deliver across the island, but our ambition is to begin deployment in early 2027 and for the first customers to start benefiting from the new network by the middle of the year," he said.
For now, detailed technical, commercial, legal, and licensing negotiations will continue between SHG and Sure over the coming months with government committing to further public announcements "as key approvals and project milestones are reached."



Under Sure's rejected 2022 proposal, its established local workforce and island operations would have formed the foundation of a new fibre network, four years before the signing of the current MoU

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Judge Brian Barker KC during a 2023 review of legal services on St Helena praised the role of the lay advocate:

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As self-employed advisors, lay advocates are supported in their important role by the Public Solicitor's Office but are independent of the PSO and enjoy the freedom of setting their own hours and working at their own pace.

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The role is financially rewarded through the Legal Assistance Fund depending on experience and hours worked per month. Full details can be made available on request.

If you are interested in the role, please send a Letter of Interest outlining why you think you would make a good lay advocate to walter.scott@publicsolicitor.com by no later than the 23 October 2026.

Safety Under Scrutiny

Minister Brooks faces heavy fire over legislative delays and legal gaps in September's Ministers Question Time



Minister Gillian Brooks, who fielded intensive questioning on legislative delays across her portfolio during September's session

Liam Yon, SAMS

Members of the Legislative Council assembled for September's Minister's Question Time (MQT) on Tuesday, 15 September. Opening remarks commemorated the International Day of Democracy, while noting apologies for Councillors Julie Thomas and Clint Beard, who were away representing St Helena at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Cape Town. Presiding over the session, the Speaker reminded members that democracy is "a continuous living practise of accountability, transparency and voice," particularly under the island's ministerial system.

With the session dedicated entirely to legislative priorities within the Safety, Security and Home Affairs (SS&HA) portfolio, Minister Gillian Brooks faced an intensive gauntlet of five core inquiries from non-executive members. The resulting debates laid bare systemic legislative delays, funding cliffs, historical drafting flaws, and enforcement gaps across cyber security, port control, road traffic reform, immigration, and fixed penalty notices.

Councillor Robert Midwinter kicked off questioning by asking what progress had been made toward adopting UK cybercrime legislation following the legislative work plan shared with members in January.

Minister Brooks delivered a frank response, confirming that "the development of cyber security legislation has not moved forward, predominantly due to not having the necessary funding and technical resources to undertake this critical piece of work". She noted that while cyber security sits on the National Risk Register and is backed by the St Helena National Cyber Incident Response Plan, governance responsibility has been caught in flux between SS&HA and Central Support Services (CSS). While IT services natively reside under CSS, interim legislative responsibility remains with SS&HA.

Minister Brooks revealed that £60,000 has been identified under the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) allocation to progress cyber policy and legislation, but cautioned that this funding carries a strict expiration date, "this needs to be spent by 31 March of next year," she revealed. A multi-agency working group—chaired by the Acting Director of SS&HA and supported by technical input from the UK Home Office—is meeting to draft Terms of Reference within a month and review a stalled 2024 policy document.

A Chief Minister intervention clarified the funding scope, explaining that an initial £120,000 proposal submitted by the former Portfolio Director covered multiple pieces of legislation, including the Data Protection Ordinance. The Chief Minister acknowledged the tight timeline. "It is quite a considerable amount of work to be done... we have a very honest reflection that there is a realistic and tight timeframe given that there is a significant amount of legislative work moving through this House".

In the back-and-forth, Cllr Midwinter pressed on immediate practical risks. "What is more critical to me in the here and now is how we are protecting our young children from crimes that could be perpetrated in St Helena, such as cyberbullying," he said, urging consideration of the UK Online Safety Act.

Councillor Dr Corinda Essex pushed for clear accountability, asking when Terms of Reference would be finalised, to which Minister Brooks responded "within a month". Minister Martin Henry then highlighted the delicate balance needed in digital legislation, noting, "we need the flexibility of the system to be able to improve and work... but it also needs



Minister Brooks revealed that a legislative gap created in 2016 has left the Harbour Master without legal provisions to clear craft off the Jamestown Wharf

to be protected". Minister Andrew Turner added that legislative reform must be complemented by community efforts, highlighting the work of the Digital Literacy and Boundaries Group engaging parents on online safety.

Councillor Ronald Coleman then turned attention to the Jamestown Wharf, asking when SS&HA intends to amend legislation or introduce regulations to control fishing boats, watercraft, and vehicles parked on the wharf and other landing areas.

Minister Brooks admitted to a severe legal loophole, revealing that "there is currently no legal provision for the Harbour Master to deal with boats and crafts that are out of the water by way of moving vessels, penalties and non-compliance". This enforcement void was created when the Ports Ordinance 2016 was enacted. "When the Ports Ordinance 2016 came into force, the Harbour Ordinance and the Ports Security Ordinance were repealed. Any legislation made under the repealed legislation was automatically revoked as no saving provision was put in place".

Minister Brooks stated that a gap analysis between the old and new ordinances is underway, aiming to bring recommendations to her Advisory Board by November. She noted operational constraints, pointing out that the Acting Harbour Master has been holding dual roles for a year alongside his substantive post as Strategic Lead for Emergency Response. Responding to Cllr Coleman's query on who currently permits boats on the wharf, the Minister explained that Port Control historically allowed vessels to be brought up for maintenance, but ongoing crane breakdowns have compounded space issues.

The exchange sparked broader debate on governance. Councillor Derek Thomas questioned if wharf development was tied to the BIOT agreement, to which the Chief Minister clarified that it was linked to recurrent budget conditions rather than BIOT. Minister Henry criticised the pattern of passing primary laws without subsidiary regulations, stressing that "we need to put dates and timelines against these things to prevent this in the future". Cllr Midwinter emphasised public consultation and clear communication plans.

Cllr Essex urged the government not to let broader site complexities stall immediate legislative fixes. "I seriously think that a few key amendments should be made... until that legislation is in place, the difficulties of making other changes are going to be exacerbated". Minister Karl Thrower countered that while Crown Estates laws provide some clean-up authority, practical limitations like broken cranes dictate current wharf management. "We can't physically lift the boats into the water... at the minute it's about common sense, it's about tidying it up".

Cllr Thomas inquired about progress and timeframes for reviewing and implementing the Road Traffic Ordinance.

Minister Brooks announced that an updated Road User Policy is going to her Advisory Board, with plans to bring it to Cabinet in October. Providing historical context, she revealed that while a revised Road Traffic Ordinance was passed in 2016, it was never commenced due to drafting errors, forcing St Helena to continue relying on its outdated 1985 Ordinance. Although work had slowed due to competing emergencies—including immigration reform, maritime ship registry obligations, airport closures, and Hantavirus response—the policy is now back on track to inform primary legislative drafting.

Addressing Cllr Thomas's previous calls for "quick wins"—such as exempting drivers over 70 from annual medical exams, allowing 17-year-olds to ride motorcycles up to 150cc, updating road signage, and resolving Jamestown parking—Minister Brooks cautioned against piecemeal changes. She revealed that the Attorney General's Chambers strongly advised against standalone amendments. "Picking one issue to fix is liable to draw attention to other issues that are not being picked... Any time given to quick wins is time that cannot be spent on overhaul of legislation, and here we need to be mindful of the very limited legal drafting resources in AG's Chambers".

When Cllr Thomas pressed whether those specific community concerns (over-70s medicals, 150cc bikes, parking, international driving licenses) would be included in the overarching policy, the Minister confirmed that "yes, it will". Cllr Midwinter inquired if speed limits in developing residential areas, like Half Tree Hollow, were being reviewed, but Minister Brooks politely declined to pre-empt Cabinet discussions before formal advisory approval.

Cllr Essex then questioned what action is being taken to fully implement the recently passed Immigration Amendment Ordinance 2026, including officer training.

Minister Brooks explained that following the passing of the ordinance on 28 July, a 6-to-9-month transition period was enacted to allow for system development. A key compo-

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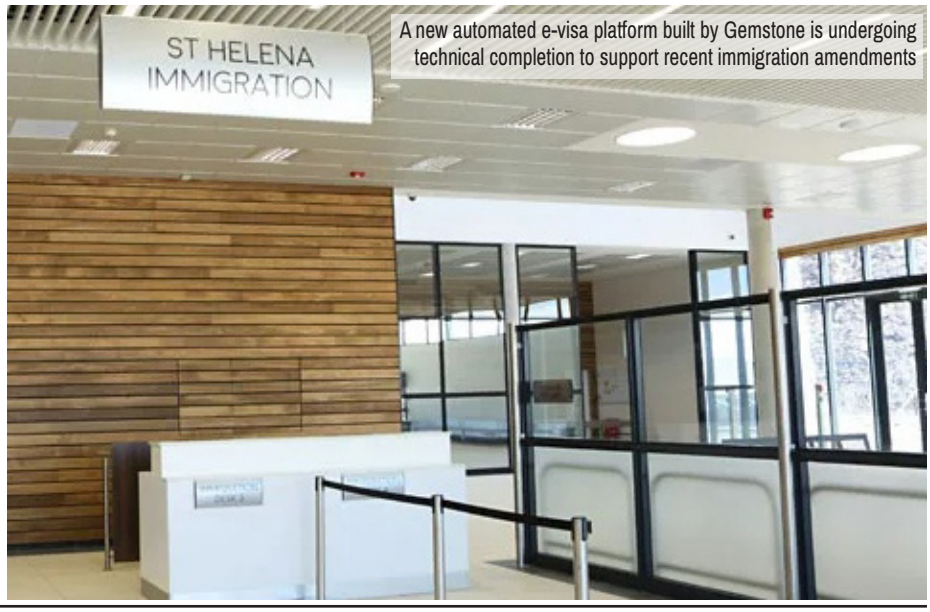
REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS, 2017

INFRASTRUCTURE & PUBLIC UTILITIES

ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE, 1985[1]

Ordinance 3 of 1985
In force 1 October 1985

Drafting errors in a 2016 revision mean St Helena still relies on its 1985 Road Traffic Ordinance, though an updated Road User Policy is now heading to Cabinet



A new automated e-visa platform built by Gemstone is undergoing technical completion to support recent immigration amendments

nent is a new e-visa platform built by Gemstone, scheduled for technical completion by the end of September. The portal will act as a "one-stop shop for all immigration processes," combining facial recognition and automated casework management.

Minister Brooks detailed a robust training and communications strategy. A public awareness rollout begins with radio broadcasts, covering protections for existing permit holders, holiday visas, unified work/stay permits, and prospective visitor guidelines. On the operational side, UK Border Force will deliver a two-week delegation course in the UK in February and March 2027 focusing on vessel searching and interview techniques. Furthermore, practical exposure training is being arranged in the Cayman Islands to give officers experience in a comparable small-island context, particularly regarding asylum protocols.

During supplementary questioning, Cllr Essex sought clarity on secondary legislation. The Chief Minister and Minister Brooks confirmed that draft Immigration Amendment Regulations are complete and scheduled for October Advisory Board consideration, while new Asylum Rules are being drafted for November alignment. Responding to Cllr Midwinter regarding immigrant landholding legislation, Minister Brooks noted that landholding falls under Crown Estates and promised to provide members with a formal update.

Cllr Denis Leo then asked for an update on the Working Group tasked with progressing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) and when the system will be implemented.

Minister Brooks announced that FPNs will officially come into force on 1 November 2026, following years of delays since initial regulations were framed in 2022 and 2025. The initial rollout will cover marine, terrestrial, environmental, and select police offences. However, Minister Brooks explicitly clarified that "no parking offences will take effect at this time due to work needed on road markings and signage". A public communications campaign and finance collection system via Central Administration will launch on 1 October.

At Cllr Leo's request, Minister Brooks listed several of the 18 specified offences, including damaging property, littering, illegal waste disposal, fishing without a license, unapproved possession of a spear gun or scuba fishing gear, noise abatement breaches, drunken disorderly conduct, and theft.

The inclusion of theft immediately drew sharp reactions. Cllr Thomas voiced strong concern, stating, "I find it very alarming to see that theft, in my view, theft can be rather serious, theft is being dealt with by a fixed penalty notice". Minister Brooks noted that police retain full discretion to prosecute severe offences through standard judicial channels.

Minister Martin Henry reflected on the broader policy implications, advising the public that FPNs are intended to prevent minor offenders from being criminalised, but cautioned against over-enforcement. "We can't be over implementing fixed penalty notices on everything because... it then can become an easy use of and an added taxation for the government". Closing the session, Cllr Midwinter asked what safeguards and appeals processes would protect citizens from unfair penalties. Minister Brooks confirmed that enforcement officers will follow strict guidelines, full details will be published during the October publicity drive, and a formal appeals process is embedded within the system.





Anita Robbertse, SAMS

Recently, Chevening Officer, Kerry Lane, and Chevening alumnus, Martina Peters, came into SAMS Radio 1 to do an interview, encouraging anyone on St Helena who qualifies to apply for a Chevening Scholarship.

The Chevening Scholarship is the UK Government's fully-funded global scholarship program enabling outstanding emerging leaders to pursue a one-year Master's degree in the United Kingdom. Covered under this scholarship are all tuition fees, a monthly living allowance, economy flight tickets to and from the UK, as well as an allowance to cover expenses when attending compulsory Chevening events.

To qualify, applicants have to be a citizen of a Chevening eligible country, like St Helena. Furthermore, those interested should have completed their under-graduate studies to be accepted at a UK university and have at least two years (2,800 hours) of work experience from the date of completing their under-graduate degree. Work experience could be that gained from voluntary work and does not necessarily have to be formal paid employment only. Applicants can apply for any course as long as it is related to their career path and interest as well as on the list of degrees that qualify for the scholarship.

Chevening alumni are also expected to return to their country of origin for a minimum of two years after the scholarship ends to contribute to their community as leaders in their chosen field. "The objective of Chevening is to create a global network of leaders working together to tackle some of the world's most challenging issues," explained Kerry as she elaborated, "you don't only have to be good at your job, you should have drive and vision. Chevening alumni have to go back to their home country and aim to effect positive change in their particular area or community."

The Chevening alumni community number over 60,000, making for a formidable global network "working together in leadership roles, making positive changes worldwide and in their communities," said Kerry. "It is a network that you can always draw on to share ideas on how to tackle issues together."

In addition to applying online through the Chevening website (www.chevening.org) for the scholarship, applicants also have to apply to three universities of their choosing and be able to get at least one unconditional offer by the deadline of 8 July 2027. "We recommend interested parties apply to three universities, just in case they are unsuccessful at one of the universities," Kerry informed, as receiving the scholarship does not guarantee admission to a university.

Awarding of Chevening Scholarships are very competitive with only a limited number offered each year, but as Martina shared with listeners, they provide unparalleled opportunities to study and build networking opportunities. Since St Helena has been part of the participating countries and territories, ten students from the island have undergone studies through the programme.

Martina was accepted to the programme in 2024 and returned to St Helena in 2025, completing a MSC in Conservation Biodiversity at the University of Exeter (Penryn Campus) supporting her work as Head of Terrestrial Conservation at the St Helena National Trust. During her studies, she participated in a fieldtrip to Scotland, working on the rewilding efforts which include Coignafern, Cairngorms and Islay of Carrifran, to name a few. The initiative to rewild the Islay of Carrifran was initiated by Phillip and Myrtle Ashmole who have visited St Helena and are the authors of the book 'St Helena and Ascension Island: A natural History'. Martina's Masters Project was based on the Wirebird and their habitat suitability across the island with the aim to utilise data collected from work undertaken by the National Trust. This project will help to disseminate data and inform future conservation work related to the Wirebird and its habitat. Martina also collaborated on a project related to nest box surveys which gave her a good opportunity to get out in the field.

Martina shared some of her experience. "It was challenging," she said. "With a Masters degree, you have to hit the ground running. You are expected to already have a certain level of preparedness." She confided that even though she did not know anyone there, the Chevening community "were very welcoming." With regards to applying her studies to her area of expertise, Martina said, "I found it very beneficial as it helps me to expand my knowledge and apply this in my job to improve processes." Martina encouraged anyone who qualifies to apply for the program as "you have an opportunity to challenge yourself. You just need to believe in yourself and you will find out what you are capable of." She ended off by saying, "I made a lot of friends from all over the world including some of the other Overseas Territories. It was a great experience!"

Kerry concluded with encouraging anyone who is interested in learning more about the Chevening Scholarship program to do the research and apply online before 11am GMT on 6 October. If you find your interest sparked and need more information, contact Kerry at the Governor's Office on telephone 22308, email Kerry.Lane@fcdo.gov.uk or have a chat with one of the alumni on island. Seize the opportunity and be part of making a positive change in our community.


Chevening Alumnus, Martina Peter's Graduation

Former Lifeline Struck in the Middle East

No damage or injuries reported as former RMS St Helena is struck by unknown projectile linked to Iranian forces in Strait of Hormuz



The vessel pictured in polar waters after being refitted for passenger expedition voyages prior to her deployment in the Gulf

Liam Yon, SAMS

News broke last week that St Helena's historic former passenger and cargo liner—the RMS St Helena—was involved in a military incident in the Middle East after being struck by an unknown projectile while transiting the Strait of Hormuz on Monday, 14 September.

While initial rumours on social media led some islanders to question the authenticity of the report, official international maritime intelligence sources have confirmed the incident, while also confirming that, thankfully, no casualties or structural damage occurred.

According to reports, verified by the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO), the 105-meter vessel was navigating the strategic chokepoint when the strike occurred at approximately 8.40pm GMT. Maritime security sources have linked the projectile to Iranian forces operating in the area amid heightened regional conflict.

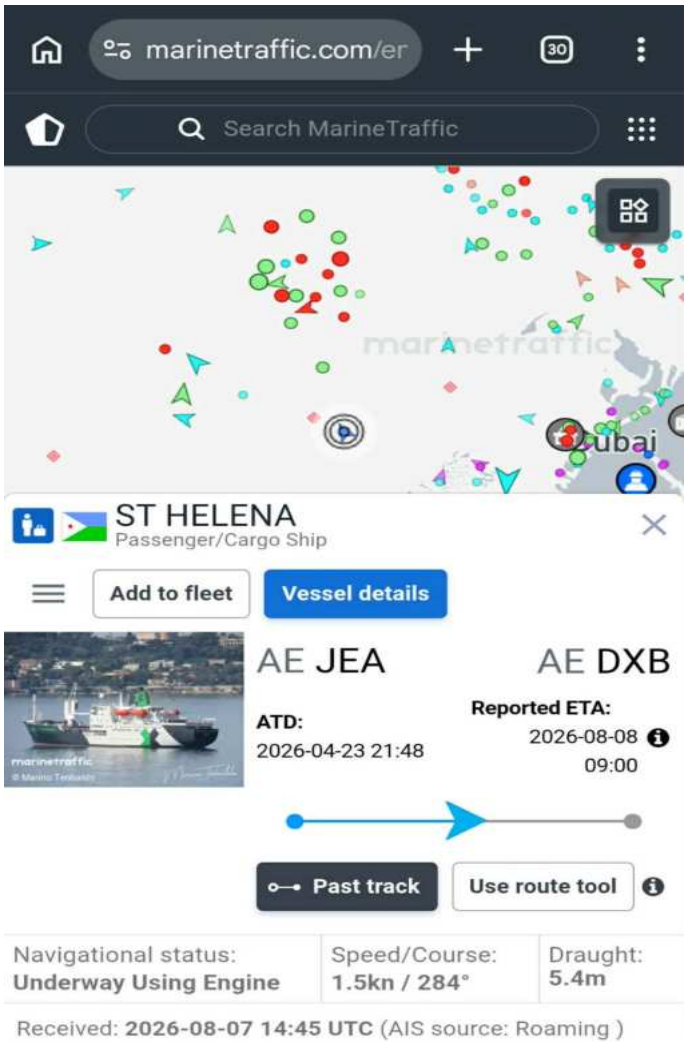
In an official advisory notice following the strike, UKMTO confirmed that data from verified on-scene sources showed that "there were no casualties, no structural damage to the vessel, and no environmental impacts resulting from the strike". Maritime authorities advised all commercial shipping in the area to "exercise extreme caution and report any suspicious activity" as regional monitoring continues.

The ship, currently operating under the flag of Djibouti, had been stranded in the Middle East Gulf due to wider regional shipping disruptions. Because of the volatile security climate, the vessel was recently forced to abandon her planned winter Antarctic cruise charter with Terra Nova Expeditions, with passenger bookings subsequently transferred to another vessel.

Confirming the decision following an inquiry by The Sentinel, Greg Carter, CEO and Founder of Terra Nova Expeditions, expressed sadness over the situation. "We aren't going ahead with our charter on the St Helena due to the situation in the gulf and the inability to get the ship out," Mr Carter stated. "We have seen the news also and are saddened to hear it."

Following the initial breaking news, doubts surfaced locally regarding whether the report was genuine. The story was first published by 'TradeWinds', which is widely recognised as the premier commercial business publication for the global maritime industry.

Operating under Norway's DN Media Group for over 35 years, TradeWinds functions within global shipping much like The Financial Times or The Wall Street Journal. The news outlet maintains dedicated maritime journalists across major international hubs—including London, Singapore, Shang-



Satellite AIS data from MarineTraffic confirming the St Helena's location and status in the Middle East region

hai, Athens, Stamford, and Oslo—and cross-references casualty data directly with military intelligence networks (such as UKMTO) and satellite Automatic Identification System (AIS) tracking. Major global news networks therefore routinely rely on TradeWinds as their primary authority for maritime incidents, confirming that reports regarding the former RMS is factual.

For Saints, the former Royal Mail Ship holds a deep historical and emotional connection. Commissioned in 1990, the RMS served as St Helena's sole physical connection to the outside world for nearly three decades, carrying passengers, medical evacuees, essential supply goods, and mail between the island, Ascension, Tristan, Cape Town, and the UK until the opening of St Helena Airport.

Since her retirement from island service in 2018, the vessel has led a remarkably varied second career. She initially operated in the Gulf of Oman as a floating armoury and security vessel, safeguarding commercial shipping, before undergoing a multi-million-pound refit to serve as the floating paddock, research lab, and transport hub for the Extreme E global electric off-road racing series. Most recently, she was refitted as an expedition vessel for passenger polar travel prior to her deployment in the Gulf region.

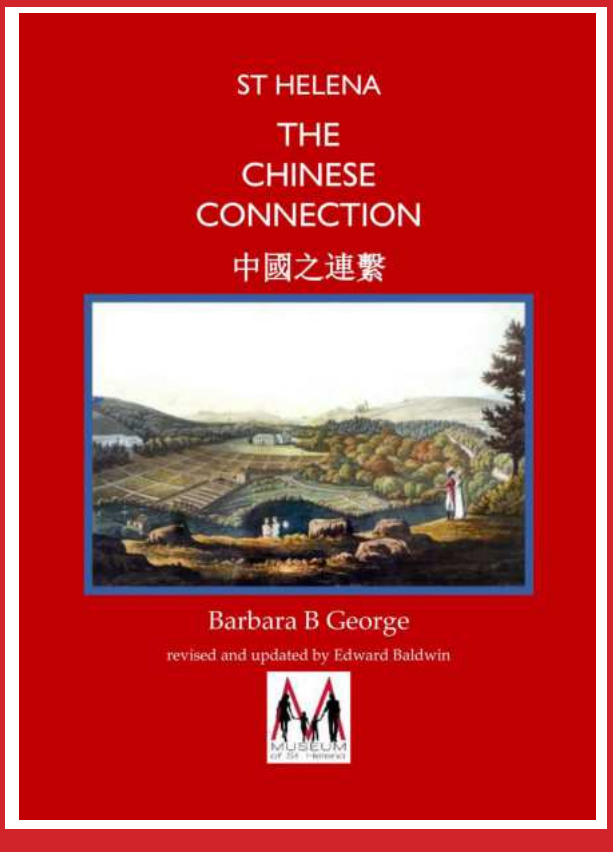


The former RMS St Helena anchored off Jamestown during her 28 years of service connecting St Helena to the world

While news of the strike caused concern across the community, reports confirm that the former RMS and her crew escaped the incident unharmed—a reassuring outcome for Saints on-island and across the diaspora who still hold the vessel dear.

ST HELENA – THE CHINESE CONNECTION

Researched by Barbara B. George.



St Helena Heritage Society, Contributed

Barbara George's book about the Chinese workers on St Helena has been out of print for some years. The Museum of St Helena has published a new, revised and corrected fourth edition, edited by Edward Baldwin. In the same A5 format paperback as before, the new edition has 128 pages and includes many new illustrations in colour. It is available for £15 at the Museum.

This book traces the little-known history of the Chinese indentured labourers, first sent to St Helena in 1810, to help with agriculture. Over the years, until the Crown took over officially in 1836, labourers kept coming. There were over 600 in St Helena in 1818, and they gradually became part of the whole workforce. There were stonecutters, masons, carpenters, blacksmiths, as well as the farmers and gardeners. These were single men on 5-year contracts. Some of those who had families on the island were allowed to stay on after 1836, and their descendants became integrated into Island society. There are fifteen deaths recorded in the Register in the Archives, all of old men who must have stayed on. After that, the Chinese names disappear.

Additional material in the new edition includes Joseph Lockwood's description of Jamestown's Chinatown, from his guide book of 1851, as well as a description of a recently rediscovered Chinese gravestone, which has joined the one formerly at Plantation House in the Museum. An attempt is made to interpret the Chinese inscription on Model Cottage at Sapper Way. There is also a short essay on the proposal in the early 1990s by a Hong Kong businessman, Mr Yu Sang Lee, to set up a clothing factory in St Helena staffed mainly by people from Hong Kong. After much public consultation, it was decided not to pursue Mr Lee's proposal.

Written in Barbara's usual relaxed style, the book is nonetheless well researched, mainly from the Jamestown Archives. The earlier editions have been widely cited in academic publications on this fascinating topic.

SHG's Samaritans Silence

Following public disclosures by Jason Moyce over long-standing safeguarding gaps, SHG confirms the end of its 11-year agreement with Samaritans UK Helpline — raising concerns and doubts over local crisis readiness



Promoted as recently as September 2025 for World Suicide Prevention Day, local advertisements displayed the free 20000 Samaritans helpline number—a service now discontinued

Liam Yon, SAMS

The St Helena Government (SHG) has officially announced the formal conclusion of its 11-year agreement with UK charity Samaritans, ending free island access to the international emotional support helpline. However, the announcement has sparked widespread public concern over government transparency, an eight-month delay in addressing known safeguarding flaws, and the immediate reliability of local crisis alternatives.

The arrangement, established in 2015 following an inquiry into local services, allowed island residents in distress to dial 20000 to be connected free of charge to Samaritans branches across the UK and Ireland.

According to an SHG press release issued on Tuesday, 15 September, Samaritans advised the government that updated operational policies, grounded in legal safeguarding, require their listening services to be restricted exclusively to callers within the UK and Ireland, where individuals can be connected directly to local emergency services during an acute crisis.

While SHG framed their announcement as a routine update following "recent public enquiries," the official statement came just three days after local resident Jason Moyce published a detailed public disclosure on social media, on 12 September, revealing that serious flaws in the service had been known to senior officials for most of the year.

According to insight shared by Jason, local concerns regarding the safeguarding arrangements surrounding the 20000 service were submitted directly to the Minister for Health and Social Care, the Chief Minister, and the Safeguarding Board as early as January 2026, "and were treated as requiring urgent attention." In a response two months later, in March, Jason was informed that emergency protocols were under review and that dedicated contact channels "for Samaritans to contact in an emergency so that an appropriate local response could be triggered," was being looked into. While this was positive, it wasn't until five months after this, on 11 August, that the Chief Minister confirmed that government was still seeking "clarification" on support arrangements.

After eight months since his initial inquiry, and without a clear resolution, Jason then made the decision to contact Samaritans UK directly. On Friday, 11 September, Samaritans formally responded, explicitly stating that "Samaritans are unable to safeguard overseas callers."

The charity confirmed that its legal team had already advised SHG that the historic agreement was at an end and requested that the government cease advertising the 20000 number.

"The public should not have to discover the status of a crisis service by contacting the organisation themselves," Jason stated in his public address, raising questions over why critical safeguarding advice was not communicated transparently to the community months earlier.

In its public announcement issued three days after Jason's social media statement, SHG assured the community that calls to 20000 would no longer be answered by Samaritans operators, but would instead play an automated message directing callers to local support resources.

However, tests conducted independently by The Sentinel up to Tuesday, 22 September, revealed a stark contradiction. Multiple attempts to dial 20000 resulted not in an informative redirection message, but in a standard automated system error stating, "Sorry, there is a fault."

For an individual in the midst of a crisis seeking immediate, confidential help, receiving an automated fault message on a long-advertised lifeline raises severe safety risks and underscores a concerning breakdown in technical execution.

Nevertheless, in the press release, SHG reaffirmed its commitment to community wellbeing. "The St Helena Government remains fully committed to supporting the emotional health and well-being of our community," they said. "Dedicated local emotional support, social care, and health resources remain readily available to anyone in need."

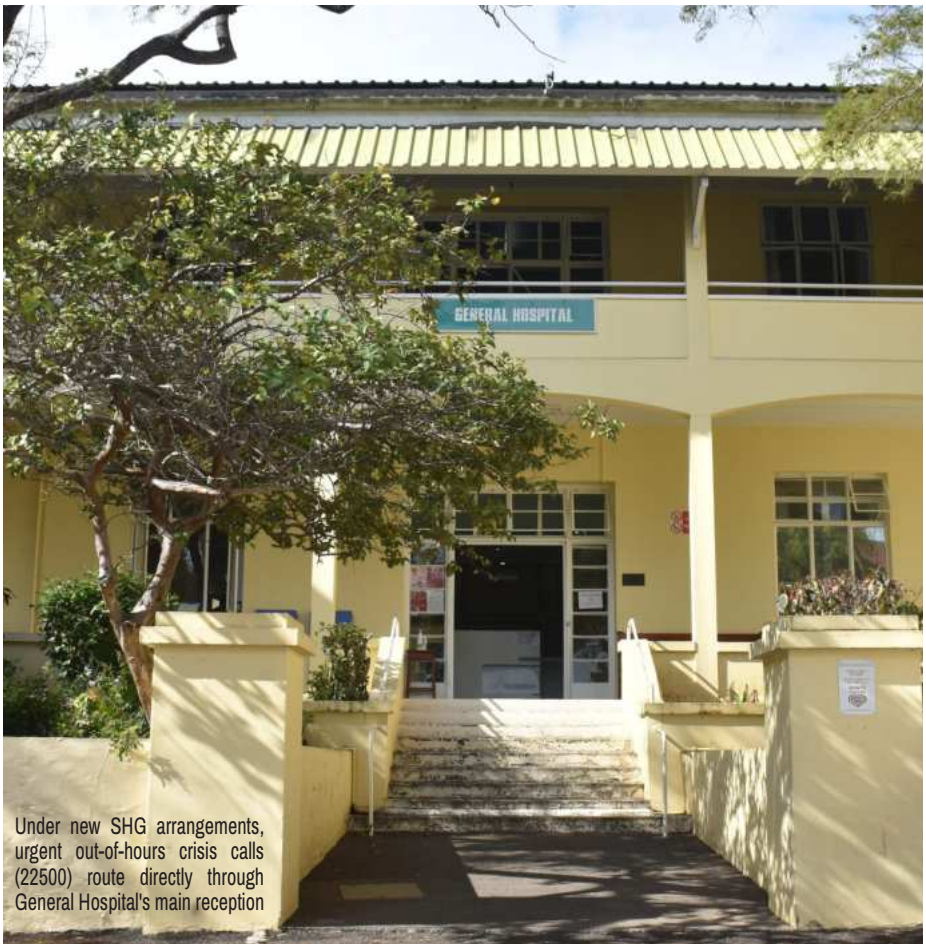
With Samaritans discontinued, SHG have directed residents requiring help to contact the Mental Health Support Team on 22593 during office hours, or by dialling 22500 for out-of-hours and urgent on-call assistance.



Local resident Jason Moyce, who contacted Samaritans UK directly after waiting eight months for government clarity on "urgent" local safeguarding arrangements

Yet, significant operational questions remain unanswered regarding the out-of-hours protocol. The 22500 number connects directly to the General Hospital main reception. To date, SHG has provided no operational details on whether switchboard and reception staff have received specialised mental health crisis triage training, nor have they published standard operating procedures explaining how a suicidal or severely distressed caller is immediately connected to on-call psychiatric or social care professionals.

With mental health awareness on St Helena at a critical juncture following a series of tragic local suicides in recent years, community demand for robust, transparent, and immediate crisis intervention has never been higher. As the island transitions away from the Samaritans safety net, the public is left seeking clear reassurances that local alternative provisions are truly functional, accessible, and equipped to save lives when every second counts.



Under new SHG arrangements, urgent out-of-hours crisis calls (22500) route directly through General Hospital's main reception

Book of the Week

Public Library Service



Swirls of Magic by Kerry Law

Isla Campbell knows stealing is wrong, she just happens to be really good at it. And with her family struggling under a huge debt, she'll do whatever it takes to free them.

When an opportunity appears that could solve all her family's troubles, Isla jumps at it. Sure, it might be working for Edinburgh's most black-hearted gangster. And it might involve meddling with the rich and powerful Royal College of Magic. But what's the worst that could happen?

With her partner in crime, Valeria, Isla infiltrates the secretive college to steal from the city's mages. But as her burgeoning trade in black market magic causes chaos, Isla discovers the harrowing truth of Edinburgh's magic and the mages who wield it.

As the city's dark magic comes roaring to the surface, being hanged as a thief is the least of Isla's worries. Magical beings prey on the Old Town, there's blood in the streets, and the city is coming apart at the seams.

Please reserve by contacting the following:-
Telephone Number: 22580
Email: publiclibrary@helanta.co.sh

SAMS RADIO 1 SCHEDULE

SAMS Radio 1

102.7 (Jamestown) • 90.5 (High Knoll) • 105.1 (Sunberry) • 105.3 (Blue Hill)

Streaming live via www.sams.sh/radio.html

FRI. Sep 25
- 7am - 10am: Sunrise Show with Luke Bennett
- 5:30-7pm: OUT OUT! with Liam
- 7:30pm: Country Classics (Repeat)

SAT. Sep 26
- 9am-11: Indie Waves with Sue (Repeat)
- 3pm: Country Chart Show (Repeat)
- 5pm: In the know
- 6pm: Artists through the Decades with Deon & Anita
- 8:30pm: OUT! OUT! with Liam (Repeat)

SUN. Sep 27
- 7am-noon: Sunday Show with Anita & Deon
- 1pm:Interveiw hour
- 3:30-5pm: UK Chart Show with Liam Yon
- 5pm: Island Pulse
- 7pm:Salvation Army Church Service
- 20:30: Classical Compilations with Anita

MON. Sep 28
- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke Bennett
- 11am: Let's talk Health
- 3-5pm: DNA with Deon & Anita
- 5:30pm: Country Classics with Donna
- 7:30pm In The Know

TUE. Sep 29
- 7am-9:00am: Morning Show with Donna
- 11am: Vibes with Anita
- 2pm: Island Pulse
- 3:30pm: American Connections with Brian Clough
- 5:30-7pm: UK Chart Show with Liam Yon
- 7:30pm: Classical Compilations with Anita

WED. Sep 30
- 7am: Morning show with Deon
- 11am: Indie Wave with Sue
- 4-7pm: Afternoon Drive with Luke Bennett
- 7:30pm: Let's talk Health

THU. Oct 01
- 7am - 10am: Sunrise with Liam & Luke
- 3-5pm: Vibes with Anita (Repeat)
- 5-7pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna
- 7:30pm: The Island Pulse

sure

Bringing you the

BBC World Service

100.7 (Briars)

88.1 (High Knoll)

102.7 (Blue Hill)

Featured this Week





Tired of hearing the same songs on repeat? It's time to discover something different. Indie Waves takes you on a musical journey beyond the mainstream, bringing you the freshest sounds from independent artists around the world. From infectious indie anthems and emerging singer-songwriters to alternative gems and future favourites, every show is packed with music you might not hear anywhere else. With a slight change, join Sue now on Wednesday's at 11am and on Saturday's from 9am.

Local news and notices:
7am, 10am, noon, 5pm, 7pm, 10pm

Reach us on ***22727*** or at ***news@sams.sh***

SAMS South Atlantic Media Services Ltd

Sentinel Sudoku Session

This week's difficulty is 'Hard'

See solution to last week's Sudoku Puzzle:

6	9	1	7	4	2	3	8	5
7	8	5	3	1	9	2	4	6
3	2	4	6	8	5	7	1	9
8	4	3	5	7	1	9	6	2
5	7	2	4	9	6	1	3	8
1	6	9	2	3	8	4	5	7
9	5	6	1	2	3	8	7	4
2	3	7	8	6	4	5	9	1
4	1	8	9	5	7	6	2	3

				1	7		5	
						9	8	4
					6		7	
	5					4		
	1		2		3			
7								2
				9				
		4		8				5
9		8	7					

Throwback Thursday



24th September 1976:

The Clifford Arboretum opens at Casons.

(sainthelenaisland.info)

Brrrr – it's been rather cold off late. After a long day at work, don't you just want to go home for a nice hearty warming meal? Well, why not try this Hairy Bikers recipe to warm up the bones on a cold evening?

Sausage Casserole



Ingredients

- 1–2 tbsp sunflower oil
- 12 pork sausages
- 6 rashers streaky bacon, cut into 1in lengths
- 2 onions, thinly sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- ½–1 tsp hot chilli powder or smoked paprika
- 400g tin chopped tomatoes
- 300ml chicken stock
- 2 tbsp tomato purée
- 1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tbsp dark muscovado sugar
- 1 tsp dried mixed herbs
- 2 bay leaves
- 3–4 fresh thyme sprigs
- 100ml red or white wine (optional)
- 400g tin butter beans or mixed beans, drained and rinsed
- salt and freshly ground black pepper
- rice or rustic bread slices, to serve

Method

1. Heat a tablespoon of the oil in a large non-stick frying pan and fry the sausages gently for 10 minutes, turning every now and then until nicely browned all over. Transfer to a large saucepan or a flameproof casserole dish and set aside.
2. Fry the bacon in the frying pan until starting to brown and crisp and then add to the dish with the sausages.
3. Add the onions to the frying pan and fry over a medium heat for 5 minutes until they start to soften, stirring often. You should have enough fat in the pan, but if not, add a little more oil. Add the garlic and cook for 2–3 minutes until the onions turn pale golden brown, stirring frequently.
4. Sprinkle over the chilli powder and cook together for a few seconds longer.
5. Stir in the tomatoes, stock, tomato purée, Worcestershire sauce, brown sugar and herbs. Pour in the wine, or some water if you're not using wine, and bring to a simmer.
6. Tip the tomato mixture carefully into the pan with the sausages and bacon and return to a simmer. Reduce the heat, cover the pan loosely with a lid and leave to simmer very gently for 20 minutes, stirring from time to time.
7. Stir the beans into the casserole, and continue to cook for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the sauce is thick.
8. Season to taste with salt and freshly ground black pepper and serve with rice or slices of rustic bread.

LIFESTYLE & CULTURE

End of an Era

St Helena Donkey Home closes after the passing of 'Dolly Daydream'



Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena has bid a fond farewell to the last of its retired working donkeys, marking the end of a cherished chapter at the island's sanctuary at Frenches Gut in Blue Hill. The recent passing of Dolly—a white jenny donkey also known as 'Dolly Daydream,' believed to be in her late twenties or early thirties—signals the official closure of the St Helena Donkey Home.

The sanctuary was originally established in July 2012 by former St Helena National Trust director, Jodie Mills, to provide a peaceful retirement for the island's working donkeys. Over the years, the initiative was kept alive by numerous dedicated individuals, including Sharon and Charlotte Leask. In 2018, when expatriate founders left the island, Teeny Lucy took over the management of the home alongside a small committee. They signed an agreement with the Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Directorate (ENRP) to continue housing the donkeys free of charge at Blue Hill, backed by support from Andy Timm and Darren Duncan.

Reflecting on the unique environment at Frenches Gut, Teeny noted that caring for the animals required constant adaptation.

"It was never the best place for donkeys, as they originate from the North African Ass and do much better in dry, hot conditions with a low-protein diet of scrub rather than rich grass," Teeny explained. "In spite of hoof issues and some metabolic liver problems over the years, the donkeys generally enjoyed the freedom, space, and company of other donkeys. As herd animals, that companionship was so important for their wellbeing."

The physical sanctuary itself grew over time through community goodwill. The main shelter was originally constructed and donated by Basil Read during the construction of the St Helena Airport. Over the years, the charity expanded the setup by purchasing a shed, new gates, and essential yard equipment. With Dolly's passing, the pasture and shelter facilities are now being returned to ENRP.

In the sanctuary's earlier years, community involvement was a regular highlight. Local families and visitors frequently joined in on Saturday mornings to take the then younger donkeys for walks around Blue Hill. "This was gradually discontinued as the remaining donkeys aged and suffered from arthritis or lameness, and as passing traffic became faster," Teeny recalled.

Maintaining the donkeys' health was a collaborative effort across the island. For the past eight years, Teeny and the committee worked closely with veterinary professionals.







"We received tremendous support from vets, Joe and Andy, alongside Rico Williams, Clayton Andrews, and Kerry Sim from the ENRP veterinary team with hoof care, dental work, worming treatments, and medical advice," Teeny shared. "Rico and Joe, in particular, worked hard with farriery equipment to make sure hooves stayed healthy and level, with Roddy Yon also assisting with hoof care in the past."

Specialised care also came from further afield. In 2018, professional farrier, Colin Goldsworthy, travelled to the island from the Donkey Sanctuary in Devon, UK, bringing specialised equipment and training the local veterinary team on proper hoof trimming and balancing. During his stay, Colin was kindly accommodated by Hazel Wilmot at The Consulate Hotel.

Land management was another joint effort. In recent years, local farmers Martin and Travis Peters, ran their sheep alongside the donkeys at Blue Hill. The sheep acted as natural pasture managers, eating the vegetation donkeys avoided and controlling weeds, while the local farmers helped with the repairing of fences and clearing fallen trees.

The St Helena Donkey Home was sustained by widespread public generosity. Treasurer, Father David, managed finances, while local families, school groups, and tourists regularly visited to groom the donkeys or collect dung from the paddocks. Saints living overseas sponsored individual donkeys, and tourists frequently donated items such as warm winter rugs. To raise essential operational funds, the charity also sold donkey-themed merchandise at local market stalls and sold sacks of pasture manure to local gardeners under the brand "Garden Gold".

Though the Donkey Home is now winding down, its legacy will continue to support animal welfare across St Helena. Remaining funds in the charity's account are being transferred to the local SPCA to assist the veterinary surgery with equipment upgrades. In the past, the Donkey Home funded heart monitors, an ultrasound scanner, stainless steel animal cages, and scrub tops for veterinary staff; the final remaining funds are currently financing a new animal weighing scale for the clinic.

Looking back on the sanctuary's history and the animals that touched so many lives, Teeny expressed heartfelt gratitude to the community.

"The most recent old donkeys to pass over to donkey heaven over the past decade—Mama, Nelson, Sampson, Shim, Bella, and now Dolly—are all remembered with so much love for their very individual personalities," Teeny said. "The St Helena Donkey Home would like to say a deep thank you to everyone who supported us in any way over the years."

This marks the sad end of an era on St Helena, and Teeny and her team, plus all of those over the years who have supported the St Helena Donkey Home, are thanked for your incredible contributions to St Helena's beloved former working donkeys.





The Island Pulse

Protecting our Young People and finding St Helena's place in the Commonwealth



Cllr Julie Thomas,Communication Champion, Contributed

This week's edition of *The Island Pulse* explored two issues that, on the surface, may appear very different, but both highlighted the importance of participation, communication and ensuring that St Helena is equipped to navigate an increasingly connected world.

The programme began with a focus firmly on the island's young people, as Councillor Julie Thomas welcomed Giselle Richards, School Counsellor and member of the Digital Literacy and Boundaries Working Group, to discuss the group's work over the past seven months.

The multi-agency group was established in response to growing concerns about the impact of online activity on children and young people. Its membership brings together education, safeguarding, health, policing, the Youth Parliament, parents and community representation, with Councillor Thomas participating in her role as the island's Children's Champion.

The group's work has included the Growing Up Online survey, which gathered information from secondary school pupils as well as Year 5 and Year 6 pupils in primary schools.

One of the most striking findings shared during the programme was that around 95% of children and young people surveyed use the internet, while at least one in three primary-aged pupils surveyed reported having been contacted online by a stranger. The survey also highlighted concerns around cyberbullying, tiredness and sleeplessness, concentration and other impacts associated with online activity.

Giselle explained that the concerns initially being observed within the secondary school increasingly appeared to have wider causes beyond the school environment.

"What we found since September of last year was there was a growing number of difficulties that were faced by our young people that was very much linked to online activity," she explained.

This led to the recognition that the issue could not be addressed by education alone. A multi-agency approach was necessary to understand what was happening and identify how young people, parents and those working with children could be better supported.

The survey found that one in seven children and young people had experienced cyberbullying, while school staff were also seeing issues including sleep deprivation, increased anxiety, irritability and reduced concentration.

For parents, the discussion offered an important reminder that understanding how to use technology does not necessarily mean understanding the risks associated with it.

Giselle openly acknowledged that she herself had discovered how much there was still to learn, despite considering herself reasonably knowledgeable about technology. Her message to parents was therefore not one of criticism, but encouragement; there is no shame in not knowing.

The group wants to empower parents with the information and tools they need to have meaningful conversations with their children and introduce appropriate boundaries, rather than simply attempting to restrict internet access.

The Youth Parliament has also played an important role by ensuring that young people themselves are part of the conversation. Although Youth Parliament member Zac Bargo was unable to join the programme because of illness, Giselle explained that he and his colleagues have been speaking directly with young people about their online habits, the platforms they use, whether they feel safe and their experiences of cyberbullying.

This provides an important student voice and creates a bridge between young people and the agencies working to support them.

The next stage will involve wider community engagement, including planned parental workshops and an island-wide communications programme. The group is also working with IT colleagues to ensure that information reaches the community through appropriate channels.

The intention is not to prevent children from benefiting from the internet. As Councillor Thomas noted, digital technology provides enormous opportunities for learning, communication and access to information, particularly for an island community.

Instead, the emphasis is on finding the balance between protection and empowerment.

The discussion also highlighted that digital literacy is not exclusively a young person's issue. Adults can also be vulnerable to misinformation, scams, manipulation and the inappropriate sharing or collection of personal information.

For parents looking for a starting point, Giselle recommended exploring parental-control tools and highlighted the Netflix programme 'Swiped: The School That Banned Smartphones' as a useful way of beginning conversations about young people and smartphone use.

The central message was clear; safeguarding in the digital age is a shared community responsibility, and education and

informed conversations are important tools in achieving it.

St Helena at the 69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference

The second half of The Island Pulse turned attention to international affairs, as Councillors Thomas and Beard reflected on their attendance at the 69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Cape Town.

Councillor Thomas attended as St Helena's delegate, while Councillor Beard participated as an observer. With more than 800 delegates attending, the conference provided an opportunity to hear from parliamentarians across the Commonwealth, exchange experiences and consider how St Helena can make the most effective use of its membership of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

The conference theme was **"Uniting to Protect Multilateralism, Observing International Law for Equality and Development in the Commonwealth and Beyond: The Role of Parliaments."**

Not every session directly related to St Helena's circumstances, but the Councillors said there were valuable lessons to take from the experience.

One recurring theme was the participation of young people in democracy. During a session on intergenerational equality and the future of parliamentary democracy, delegates considered the relatively low representation of younger people within parliaments and the importance of creating meaningful opportunities for young people to engage in democratic institutions.

Councillor Beard also highlighted the wider concern around young people completing education or training without clear career opportunities, describing this as an issue experienced internationally.

For St Helena, the discussion reinforced the importance of ensuring that young people are viewed not simply as the island's future, but as an active part of its community today.

Another significant theme was the capacity available to different legislatures.

With St Helena's Legislative Council comprising a small number of members and its legislative administration supported by only a small staff, the Councillors were able to compare the island's resources with those available to much larger parliaments.

The experience reinforced their view that St Helena must ensure its limited resources are used as effectively and strategically as possible, while ensuring that those supporting the Legislative Council have the appropriate specialist skills and capacity for the work required.

The Councillors also participated in discussions around climate adaptation and resilience, inclusivity, parliamentary capacity and the role of smaller jurisdictions.

A particular point arising from these sessions was the value of creating opportunities for smaller territories to share experiences directly with one another. Councillor Beard observed that while larger jurisdictions can provide valuable examples, smaller administrations often face very different constraints and may have more directly comparable experiences.

The British Islands and Mediterranean Region conference also provided an opportunity to discuss proposed changes to the CPA Constitution, including the introduction of a 50:50 gender representation requirement at CPA events over a five-year period.

Councillor Thomas raised concerns about how such a requirement could practically affect very small legislatures such as St Helena, particularly where financial and numerical constraints limit the number of representatives who can attend international conferences.

The Councillors said assurances had been given that provisions would be available to accommodate smaller jurisdictions but stressed the importance of obtaining the precise arrangements in writing so that future Legislative Councils have clarity.

Another issue raised during the conference concerned the representation and visibility of the UK Overseas Territories.

The absence of Overseas Territories flags at the General Assembly was highlighted by a representative from the British Virgin Islands. Councillor Thomas also noted the importance of ensuring that smaller territories have opportunities to contribute to conference panels and discussions.

Both Councillors said St Helena would feed its observations and suggestions into the report following the conference. Among the improvements they would like to see are greater opportunities for smaller jurisdictions to participate in dedicated sessions and panels, clearer information about individual workshops and their content in advance, and greater recognition of the particular circumstances faced by small island territories.

The Councillors stressed that these suggestions were intended constructively, helping future conferences make better use of the experience and perspectives of their smallest members.

For both Councillors, one of the most valuable aspects of the conference was networking. New relationships were established with parliamentarians from across the Commonwealth, including representatives from other smaller jurisdictions and those with whom St Helena has previously engaged through the British Islands and Mediterranean Region.

The scale of the conference was particularly evident during the opening and closing ceremonies. More than 800 delegates gathered together, with both events showcasing the culture, music, traditions and diversity of South Africa. Performances from South African artists and musicians created a vibrant backdrop to proceedings, while senior parliamentary and Commonwealth figures addressed delegates.

The opening ceremony included contributions from senior representatives of the Western and Eastern Cape, the CPA and the Commonwealth, while the closing ceremony provided a final opportunity for delegates to come together, reflect on the week and continue the informal networking that had become such an important part of the conference.

The Councillors also noted the representation of women in senior parliamentary positions in South Africa, as well as the participation of younger parliamentary leaders, providing examples of how different jurisdictions are approaching representation and succession.

The experience provided an opportunity to reflect on St Helena's own position within the Commonwealth.

As Councillor Thomas put it during the programme, **"small does not mean insignificant."**

Despite its size and limited resources, St Helena has a voice within the Commonwealth family, and both Councillors believe that voice should continue to be used constructively.

The conference concluded with the St Helena delegation beginning its journey home, but the work does not end there. The Councillors will now prepare a report on their attendance, with the intention that the lessons and observations can be shared and considered by the Legislative Council.

It was also confirmed during the conference that the 70th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference will be held in Ottawa, Canada, in 2027, providing the next opportunity for Commonwealth parliamentarians to come together.

From safeguarding children online to strengthening St Helena's parliamentary voice internationally, this week's The Island Pulse ultimately returned to a common theme: ***being informed, asking questions, sharing knowledge and ensuring that people have the opportunity to participate in the decisions and conversations that affect their lives.***

Learning from the Master (of Wine)

Guests learn more about wines at Rose & Crown Wine Workshop



Anita Robbertse, SAMS

On Saturday evening, 19 September, Rose & Crown hosted a Wine Workshop at The Crown, Ladder Hill, the second event of its kind.

Around fifty guests arrived to The Crown at 7.30pm in anticipation of tasting some wines from two new South African Wine Estates, guided by the expertise of distinguished Master of Wine, Antony Moss.

Organiser of the event, Tara Wortley, welcomed the guests and introduced Antony. He then proceeded to give guests a bit of background on his experience and journey into the world of wine, having eventually, after a number of years of training, achieved the distinction of being named as a Master of Wine. This title is awarded by the Institute of Masters of Wine (IMW) based in London. There are only 427 active Masters of Wine working across 31 countries and it is the highest and most rigorous academic title you can achieve in the global wine industry.

While Antony was imparting some of his knowledge to guests, servers were working behind the scenes to pour the first four wines to the eagerly waiting guests. The first wines to be compared were four samples of Sauvignon Blanc, a light, fruity drier white wine variety. Anthony spoke to the wines and the vineyards as well as the different approaches and focus areas of winemakers when producing a Sauvignon Blanc. The first two were from the Vergelegen vineyard - their 'Wild Winds' Sauvignon Blanc and their 'Rocky Lands Fairtrade'. The third wine was from the La Vierge vineyard situated in the Hermanus district called 'The Crab & Heron' with the final Sauvignon Blanc from Porcupine Ridge - a New Zealand wine included in the tasting to showcase the difference in taste dependent on the winemaker's approach.

Guests were then encouraged to smell the wines and taste them side by side to experience the difference in taste and fruity notes. After allowing some time for this process, Antony asked guests to choose their favourite Sauvignon Blanc from the selection eliciting varied opinions reflecting everyone's unique taste.

After the first tasting, canapés were served to clear the palate with servers pouring the second round of wines, two Chardonnays from the same two vineyards - Vergelegen called 'Rocky Lands' and La Vierge called 'The Turtle and The Shark'. Antony then gave some background on the processes of making a Chardonnay as well as the different approaches in producing this wine that would influence the taste. With a very different taste compared to the Sauvignon Blancs, as is to be expected from a Chardonnay, guests went through the same process of smelling the wines before tasting these two white wines. Again, Antony enquired as to everyone's favourite of the two.

The final tasting of wines involved four red wines from











the same two vineyards. The first two wines were from La Vierge, a Pinot Noir called 'The Fairy & The Crocodile' and the second, a Syrah called 'The Giant Tortoise & The Clever Monkey'. The final two wines were two blends, one from Vergelegen 'Mill Race Red' and from La Vierge 'The Up-side Down Tree of Life'. As Antony shared information on these wines with the guests, the final wines were sampled with guests again given the opportunity to decide on their favourite.

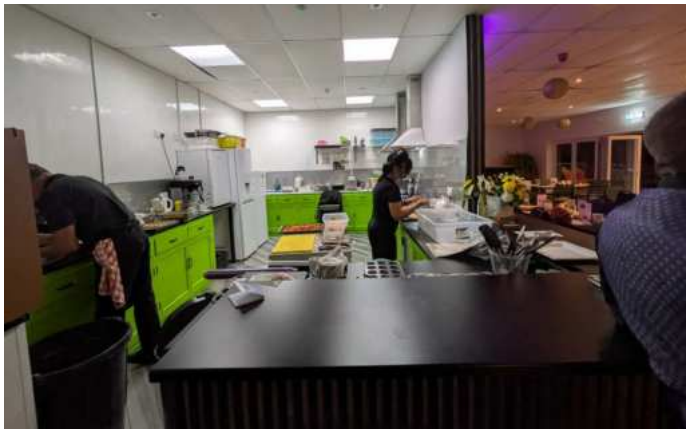
All those attending the evening were invited by Tara to rate the wines from 1 to 5 with fun descriptions for each number like '1-No Thanks' and '5-Give me the bottle'. She also revealed that the feedback provided would be used to determine some of the wines to be featured at the ever-popular annual wine tasting event once again taking place in November.

Guests could then buy drinks from the bar while continuing to enjoy a fun social evening chatting and mingling after having learnt more about wine from the 'Master'.









Ahoy, Captain Morgan!



Nine-year-old Morgan Young; inspiring the next generation and keeping St Helena's maritime heritage alive for World Maritime Day

Donna Crowie, SAMS

Today, Thursday 24 September, St Helena celebrates World Maritime Day. To mark the occasion, the Maritime Authority of SHG is raising awareness across the island by celebrating St Helena's rich maritime heritage, past and present. A vibrant week of events has been planned, featuring a historic talk, an introduction to ship surveying, school and Jamestown Brownies activities, a demonstration by the Sea Rescue Service, a mufti day, and special radio broadcasts.

Surrounded by the vast Atlantic Ocean, St Helena relies heavily on the sea. Among other essential goods, food, medical supplies, and building materials arrive via our supply vessel, the MV Karoline, while local fisheries supply the island with fresh fish. Delivering these vital needs requires skilled maritime professionals—a tradition going back to the days when travelling by sea was the only way on and off the island.



While interest in the maritime sector has faded among some of the younger generation, nine-year-old Morgan Young—affectionately known to many as "Captain Morgan"—is a bright exception. Deeply fascinated by the sea, Morgan was fittingly named after a sailor by his dad, Johnny Herne, and mum, Annalene Young.



Morgan's love affair with the ocean began when he was just a year old. Today, he accompanies his dad out on the water whenever he can. He was even captured on video recently, helping to fetch a fishing party off the rocks early on a Sunday morning.

Under his father's guidance, Morgan is learning the ropes aboard the Enchanted Isle—a sizeable red vessel offering guided marine tours, including dolphin watching, fishing trips, and whale shark and humpback whale excursions. Out on these trips, Morgan has even been brave enough to jump in and swim alongside whale sharks.

Lately, he has been mastering how to steer traditional tiller-operated boats. Describing the technique in his own words, Morgan explains, "Push forward, I'll go to right, pull back, that's left. Up, that's left."



Alongside hands-on steering, Morgan is learning essential nautical terminology like "port" and "starboard," alongside studying tides, weather patterns, and sea conditions. Safety at sea is another key priority for the young mariner, who personally ensures every passenger on board is properly fitted with a life jacket.

At just nine years old, Morgan is already dreaming big. He hopes to earn his formal qualifications to skipper his very own boat in the future. While he hasn't settled on a vessel name just yet, he already knows what he wants to offer his passengers; expanded whale-watching trips, peaceful sunset cruises, and night-time stargazing tours.

It is hoped that young Morgan's passion for the ocean will inspire other young Saints, ensuring the island's proud maritime heritage continues to thrive for generations to come.

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

INVITATION TO TENDER

Upgrade of Sewage and Greywater Works at Cape Villa

St Helena Government would like to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the following contract: **SSHA3-2026/27 – Upgrade of Sewage and Greywater Works at Cape Villa**

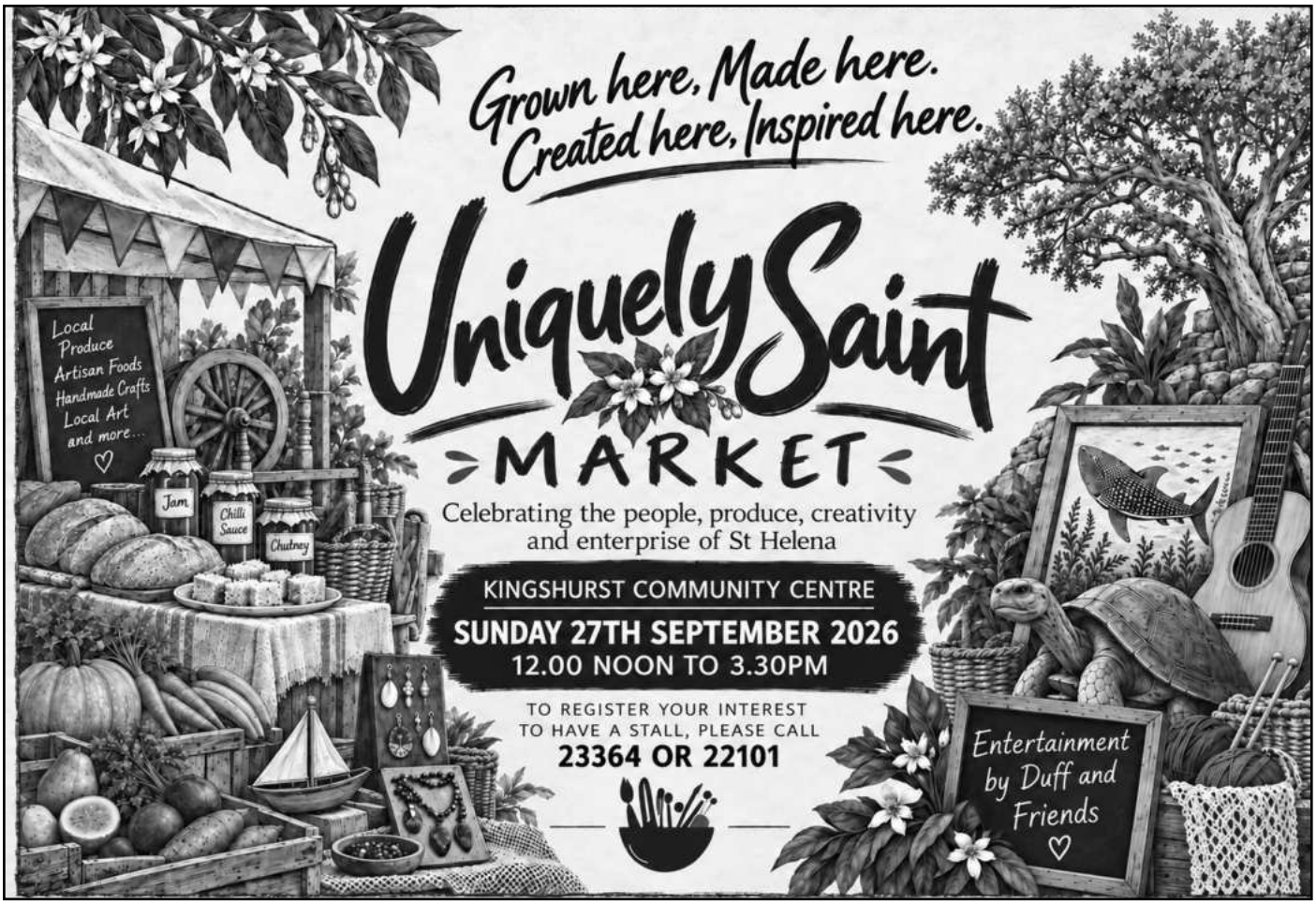
A site visit to view the works will take place on Wednesday, 16 September 2026, at 10:00, meeting at Cape Villa, St Paul's.

Copies of the tender document and further details can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, on telephone no: 25932 or via email tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh .

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Wednesday, 30 September 2026, clearly marked **"Tender SSHA3-2026/27"**.

Interested parties should note that this opportunity is **not** being advertised overseas.

SHG, 08 September 2026



NOTICE BOARD

BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Services - 27th September
Sandy Bay Chapel, 8.45 am
Head O'Wain Chapel, 10.45 am
Jamestown Chapel, 6.00 pm

Bible Studies
Tuesday, 29th September:
Baptist School Hall, 7.00 pm
Thursday, 1st October:
Sandy Bay Chapel, 5.30 pm

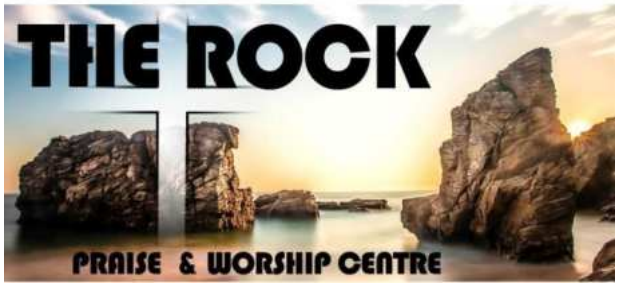
SPECIAL EVENTS
Adventure Kids – Age 6 – 10 yrs old
Saturday, 26th September:
Baptist School Hall, 10.00 am to 11.30AM

ALL ARE WELCOME

For further information contact: Tel No 24644

DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's		
Sunday 27th September 2026 - 26th Sunday of the Year		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St Andrew
11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Helena & The Cross
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 27th September 2026 – 26th Sunday of the Year		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
3.30 p.m.	**Patronal Festival**	**St Michael**
	Thursday 1st October	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 27th September 2026 – 26th Sunday of the Year		
11.15	Eucharist	St Matthew
	Tuesday 29th September	
7.00 p.m.	**Mission Praise and Worship**	**St Mark**



Church Notices

We warmly invite you to join us for:

Prayer Meeting

Saturday 26th September 2026 at 8:30am -Online
Contact Mercy for details-65880 or 24212

Praise and Worship Service

Sunday 27th September 2026
@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.
Contact 51672
Kidz Zone at 11am

Cell Meetings

Tuesday 29th September 2026 at 5pm
At Cape Villa.
Combined Cell
The Rock Christian Fellowship, Longwood Avenue at 7.00pm
(Contact: 51672 for details)

Christian Gift/bookshop & DVD rental

The Christian gift/bookshop & DVD rental (as well as second-hand goods shop) is available. For further information call 51672 or 64295

ST. HELENA DIVE CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

Date: Monday 5th October 2026
Time: 6.30pm
Where: The Dive Club, the wharf

Members and non-members welcome. Snacks will be provided.

AGM papers will be circulated to members in advance, via email.

Membership is due on the night or can be paid in advance at the BoSH.

Please let us know in advance of nominations for the committee. If you have any other matters you wish to discuss, please let us know. Email us on shdiveclub@gmail.com

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

INVITATION TO TENDER

Wastewater Treatment Works – Mechanical and Electrical Works - Half Tree Hollow

Reference: CS-2072-SHG

St Helena Government would like to invite suitably qualified businesses to submit a Tender for the design, supply, delivery, installation and commissioning of the Mechanical and Electrical works, for the Half Tree Hollow Wastewater Treatment Works.

Full documentation and the specifications can be found on the SHG e-procurement system which can be accessed via: https://www.in-tendhost.co.uk/sainthelena/aspx/ProjectManage/2072 following registration on the system. User guides are available via the 'Supplier Information' tab to assist prospective contractors registering on the e-procurement system.

If businesses would like a hard copy of the tender documentation, they should contact SHG procurement on email: Lois.Moss@sainthelena.gov.sh or, on tel. no: 25931/25932.

Tender submissions should be made via the e-procurement system.

Expressions of interest must be received no later than 12:00 GMT (Midday) on Tuesday 29 September 2026.
Tenders must be received no later than 12:00 GMT (Midday) on Wednesday 26 October 2026.

Businesses should note that this tender is being advertised both locally and overseas.

NOTE TO EDITOR:

This project has been approved for funding under the UK funded Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP), in partnership with the FCDO.

SHG
08 September 2026

St Helena Government

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

REMINDER: Have Your Say on the Future of St Helena's Fishing Industry

SHG invites all community members, business owners, and fishing sector stakeholders to participate in the public consultation on *The Future of the Fishing Industry: Options for Policy*, running from **21 September to 23 October 2026**. No decisions have been made, and your views are essential to help shape future direction.

Upcoming Public Engagement Opportunities

- **Thursday Pop-Up Stall:** Stop by the stall outside t**he Canister every Thursday from 12:00 to 14:00** for four weeks, beginning **Thursday, 24 September 2026**. Speak directly with team members, ask questions, and pick up information.
- **Public Meetings:** Attend any of the three evening meetings held at **The Museum at 19:00** on:
  - Thursday, 24 September 2026
  - Thursday, 1 October 2026
  - Thursday, 8 October 2026

How to Review the Documents

- **Online:** Download the document from the SHG Public Information Page.
- **Hard Copies:** Available at the Jamestown Public Library and the Post Office.
- **Background Reading:** Review the plain-English summary via the Situational Analysis Summary or access the full report on the SHG Website.

Additional Ways to Submit Feedback

- **Email:** Send your comments to **fisheries.consultation@sainthelena.gov.sh**.
- **Direct Contact:** Reach Ann Muir at the Thursday pop-up stalls, at The Castle by calling **22470**, emailing **Ann.Muir@sainthelena.gov.sh**, or visiting in person to arrange an individual meeting.

All consultation responses will remain confidential and will be cited anonymously in subsequent reporting.



OCTOBER OPENING HOURS

Main Branch

Monday - Friday	08:45 - 15:00
Saturday	09:00 - 12:00

Airport Kiosk

Flight days only	10:30 - 14:30

Remote Banking

HTH Supermarket	Tuesday, 27 October 2026	09:30 – 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Wednesday, 28 October 2026	09:30 – 13:00

Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

info@sainthelenabank.com
+290 22390
www.sainthelenabank.com
Market Street, Jamestown
@sainthelenabank
Bank of St Helena Ltd

Established and regulated in St Helena under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008 and 2017, the Financial Services Regulations, 2017, the Company Ordinance, 2004 and the Company Regulations, 2004

ST HELENA'S POST BOX WALKS — REIMAGINED

COMING SOON

S

SAINT STAMP

POWERED BY NEXTECH ST HELENA

Every Post Box Walk. Now in Your Pocket.

A digital postbox walk companion like no other — developed on the island, for the island.

- **GPS-tracked, trailhead to summit** — not just a scan at the postbox
- **A digital ink stamp** for every walk you complete
- **Earn Bronze, Silver & Gold** certification across all 25 walks
- **A memory that cannot be erased or washed away** — kept safe, walk after walk

Collect stamps. Earn certification. Conquer the island.

WATCH THIS SPACE

A Bespoke Solution by NexTech St Helena Ltd

NOTICE BOARD







NOTICE BOARD

VACANCY

Connect SAINT HELENA LTD

Communications Officer

Connect Saint Helena Ltd has a vacancy for a Communications Officer. The successful candidate is responsible for developing and implementing effective communication strategies to enhance Connect Saint Helena Ltd.'s (Connect) public image, engage stakeholders, and promote key initiatives. This role involves content creation, media relations, digital engagement, and internal communications to ensure consistent messaging across all platforms.

EXPERIENCE & QUALITIES

- Communications, Public Relations, Journalism, Marketing,
- Experience with graphic design, video editing or email marketing tools
- Website design and digital analytics
- Driving Licence, Class A

QUALIFICATIONS

- GCSE English and Maths at Grade C or above
- Public Relations/Journalism

BENEFITS

- A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.
- 15% pension contributions of the base salary and 30 days annual leave.

For further information and a full Job Description please contact Clare Harris +290 22255 or email Clare.Harris@connectonline.co.sh Completed application forms can be handed into the Connect Saint Helena Ltd main office at Seales Corner, Jamestown or via email: Claire.B.Duncan@connectonline.co.sh by 9:00am on Monday, 5 October 2026. To be considered for this role please complete our application form, CV's will not be accepted.

www.connect.co.sh/vacancies.html | connectsainthelenaltd | https://www.linkedin.com/company/connect-saint-helena-ltd/

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

INVITATION TO TENDER

Vessel Support for Offshore Islet and Egg Island Monitoring

The St Helena National Trust invites tenders from boat operators to provide vessel support for seabird monitoring and equipment deployment.

Two contracts are offered:

1. **Islet Surveys:** 10 -12 days of two-day trips, spread every 4 - 6 weeks from mid-October 2026 to mid-June 2027.
2. **Egg Island Monitoring:** Approx. 12 days in hot season (equipment deployment October, 10-day block late November, retrieval December) and 14 - 16 days in cold season (deployment April, 10-day block May, retrieval June, plus nest/camera work).

Tenderers may apply for either one contract or both, depending on capacity (*clearly mark on submission which tender you are applying for*).
Contractors must have suitable vessels, equipment, and operational capacity.
Applicants should provide quotations for half-day and full-day trips (inclusive of staff, fuel, etc.), details of vessel and crew suitability, copies of Health & Safety policy, insurance/liability cover, and safeguarding policies (where available).

For details, contact the Marine Department on 22569/22307 or email emma.holborn@trust.org.sh / neil.thorp@trust.org.sh.

Interested persons should submit tenders in a sealed envelope to the Office Manager, Amanda Constantine, by no later than 16:00hrs on Friday 2nd October 2026.

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING…

BENEFITS

- → **Leave** – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays
- → **Pension** – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme
- → **Training and Development**
- → **Paid sickness absence**

HOW TO APPLY

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

Forest Worker
(£9,573 per annum)

The Forestry Section is looking to recruit a Forest Worker to provide support for field work within the silviculture team. The role involves performing manual forestry tasks, which encompass land clearing, control of invasive and alien plant species, ground preparation, planting, thinning, pruning, fencing, cleaning, and the harvesting of sawlogs, firewood, and fence posts, as specified by the relevant line manager. The role also includes the collection of tree seeds and seedlings when necessary and also nursery related activities. Contact us for information and a discussion.

Enquiries:	**Myra Young on Tel No. 24724 or Email: myra.young@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date:	**23 September 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**28 September 2026**
Interview date:	**08 October 2026**

Cover Supervisor (SHSS)
(£12,101 per annum)

Are you looking to play a pivotal role in fostering a supportive, inclusive, and high-achieving school environment? If so, St Helena Secondary School is seeking an enthusiastic and dedicated Cover Supervisor to join its forward-thinking team. In this important role, you will ensure the continuity of learning by providing effective classroom cover when teaching staff, both locally appointed and Technical Co-operation Officers, are absent due to illness or approved leave. You will maintain accurate records of cover arrangements and support the completion of assessments and reports in accordance with the school's assessment calendar for colleagues on long-term absence or leave. Additionally, you will undertake playground and on-call duties, including supervision within the Isolation Room, as required and in line with the published duty rota. Please get in touch for further information or an informal discussion about the role.

Enquiries:	**Phil Toal on Tel No. 24290 or Email: phil.toal@sainthelena.edu.sh**
Closing date:	**02 October 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**07 October 2026**
Interview date:	**15 October 2026**

Mechanic Supervisor
(£13,569 per annum)

The Foreman Mechanic will support the maintenance of a fleet of vehicles and heavy plant equipment to meet the demands of the Public Service. Undertaking and overseeing efficient and effective repairs and maintenance of vehicles and plant equipment. Assisting with planning, allocating and monitoring work schedules and completing formalities associated with the work. Ensuring the day-to-day work of the Mechanics is delivered on time and to quality. Contact us for information and a discussion.

Enquiries:	**Nicholas George on Tel No. 24290 or Email: nicholas.george@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date:	**30 September 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**06 October 2026**
Interview date:	**13 October 2026**

The St Helena Public Service welcomes all applications from across our whole community, including our St Helenian diaspora wishing to return to St Helena. If you are a St Helenian currently living and working overseas, please contact us at recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh to discuss how we can support you. SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, vetting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the application independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may vary according to role

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING...

BENEFITS

- → **Leave –** 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays
- → **Pension –** 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme
- → **Training and Development**
- → **Paid sickness absence**

HOW TO APPLY

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

Administrative Assistant
(£10,088 per annum)

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Central Support team? If so, we are looking to recruit an Administration Assistant. The Administration Assistant is responsible for completing straightforward administrative processes that support the smooth running of Portfolios and delivering a high quality, customer focused service. We are seeking a highly motivated individual who works methodically and has a keen eye for detail that can provide administrative support across the Portfolios. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries:	**Sara-Kay Yon on Tel No. 22470 or Email: sara-kay.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date:	**08 October 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**14 October 2026**
Interview date:	**27 October 2026**

Administrative Team Leader
(£13,569 per annum)

The Administration Team Leader will contribute to service delivery by coordinating the daily operations of the Senior Administration Assistants and Administration Assistants within the Administration Support Service operate smoothly, ensuring that all administrative tasks are performed efficiently and effectively to enable the Portfolios to operate smoothly. Located in the Central Support Service but mobile across the Portfolios, this role promotes efficiencies and assists the Senior Administration Team Leader in creating an effective administration service that adapts to the evolving requirements of a contemporary Public Service. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries:	**Sara-Kay Yon on Tel No. 22470 or Email: sara-kay.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date:	**08 October 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**14 October 2026**
Interview date:	**22 October 2026**

Executive Assistant to the Governor
(£16,248 per annum)

We are looking for an Executive Assistant to HE the Governor to serve as the principal point of contact in administration matters relating to the Office of the Governor. Working in a fast-paced environment, the postholder will co-ordinate and manage engagement with a range of officials, including Ministers, Elected Members, senior public servants, the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, community organisations and members of the public. They will be required to maintain oversight of the Governor's commitments and responsibilities, respecting deadlines and ensuring timely follow up and completion of agreed actions. The role requires exceptional organisational skills as well as high standards of integrity and confidentiality. The successful candidate will work alongside the current postholder for a short period of time to ensure a smooth transition.

Enquiries:	**Carol Henry on Tel No. 22470 or Email: carol.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date:	**07 October 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**12 October 2026**
Interview date:	**21 October 2026**

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NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING…

BENEFITS

- → **Leave –** 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays
- → **Pension –** 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme
- → **Training and Development**
- → **Paid sickness absence**

HOW TO APPLY

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

Head of Economic Development Policy

(£30,560 per annum)

The Economic Development Portfolio is seeking to recruit a Head of Economic Development Policy to be overall responsible for the Economic Development Delivery Plan. In this role, you will be responsible for budgeting, strategic planning, liaison with Elected Members and Management to deliver the plan and be responsible for ensuring, through strong leadership, that the Sustainable Economic Development Strategy, Investment Policy, Tourism Strategy, and Investment Strategy are delivered. You will also have the responsibility for staff who are critical in achieving successful implementation of the above. The Head of Economic Development Policy will provide expert professional advice to the Portfolio Director, Chief Secretary and Minister for Economic Development, and engage with Executive and Legislative Councils, partners and colleagues across the Public Service and private sector to deliver the strategic vision for Sustainable Economic Development. Strong leadership is essential as well as experience in managing and leading a high performing team.

Contact us for further information and a copy of the full job profile.

Enquiries: Damian Burns on Tel No. 22470 or Email: Damian.burns@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 09 October 2026
Shortlisting date: 14 October 2026
Interview date: 22 October 2026

The St Helena Public Service welcomes all applications from across our whole community, including our St Helenian diaspora wishing to return to St Helena. If you are a St Helenian currently living and working overseas, please contact us at recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh to discuss how we can support you. SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, vetting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the application independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may vary according to role

NOTICE BOARD

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc

LEASE & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

ESTABLISHED COFFEE PLANTATIONS SANDY BAY, ST HELENA



A RARE OPPORTUNITY to build on an established coffee enterprise

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc invites Expressions of Interest from experienced agricultural operators, investors and agribusiness professionals interested in leasing/partnering and developing established coffee plantations in the Sandy Bay area.

This is a unique opportunity to take advantage of an existing coffee-growing operation with infrastructure and equipment already in place. The plantation offers scope for continued production, expansion, value-adding activities and market development, locally and internationally.

St Helena Coffee is recognised for its Quality and Heritage. Be Part of its Future.

EXISTING ASSETS INCLUDE:

- Established Coffee Plantations
- Commercial Coffee Pulper
- Coffee Bean Sorting Machine
- Coffee Sorting & Roasting Room
- Drying Shed Facilities

COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc is open to discussing a range of commercial arrangements, which may include:

- Long-term lease agreements
- Crop-share arrangement
- Resale or export partnerships
- Alternative proposals that demonstrate commercial viability

INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST OUTLINING:

- Relevant experience and background
- Proposed lease and/or partnership arrangement
- Business objectives and development strategy
- Financial and operational capability
- Contact details

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, TO REQUEST AN INFORMATION PACK OR ARRANGE A SITE VISIT, PLEASE CONTACT:

Paul Gasteen, Chief Executive Officer

22380 paul.gasteen@solomons.co.sh

CLOSING DATE FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST:

16 OCTOBER 2026

All enquiries and submissions will be treated confidentially.
Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc welcomes discussions with parties committed to maximising the potential of this established coffee plantation and its processing facilities.

NOTICE BOARD

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc

has a Vacancy for a

Financial Services Manager

This is a high profile, leadership position as a member of the Company's Corporate Management Team.

The **Financial Services Manager** will be responsible for the Management of the Finance Department and to oversee the accurate provision of financial services and financial advice to all levels of the company, whilst upholding the Company's Purpose & Values.

Interested Persons should have:

- The following knowledge and experience:
    - 5 years professional experience in a financial field
    - 3-5 years' experience in financial management, accounting and budgetary control, including financial planning, and project management experience
    - Practical knowledge of maintenance of accounting systems internal controls and relevant accounting procedures. Experience with Access Dimensions will be an advantage.
    - Direct experience of preparation, analysis and reporting on monthly, quarterly and annual financial information
    - Preparation of Annual Financial Statements in readiness for audit.
- CCAB qualification or recent equivalent level of experience
- Financial Leadership/Management certification/accreditation.
- Strong financial and strategic planning skills including technical budgeting, forecasting and analytical skills
- Comprehensive knowledge of financial regulations and compliance requirements.
- Financial Risk assessment and risk mitigation skills and abilities
- Financial technical skills and abilities and able to train and develop accounting technicians and the wider finance team
- Delegation, planning and organisational skills
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- A high degree of integrity, maturity and professionalism with the ability to lead effectively in a demanding, fast paced team environment

For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Paul Gasteen, Chief Executive Officer, on telephone number 22380, or via email: paul.gasteen@solomons.co.sh

Application forms can be collected from the Main Office Building, Jamestown, or alternatively, an electronic copy can be requested via email address: hradmin@solomons.co.sh. Completed application forms should be submitted to Madonna Henry, Human Resources Manager, or via email address hrm@solomons.co.sh by **1600hrs, Friday, 16 October 2026.**

An Incredibly Ballzy Race





Title race heats up as Incredibles and Ballzy Ladies trade blows in WSA Rounders League 2026

Liam Yon, SAMS

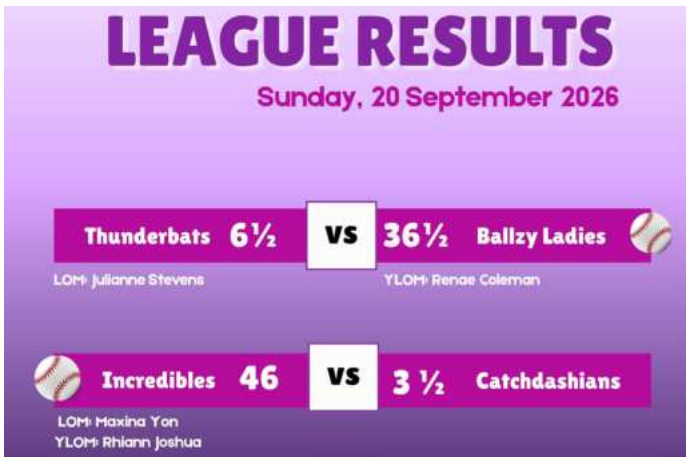
The Women's Sports Association Rounders League 2026 title race is heading toward a dramatic finish, with defending champions Ballzy Ladies and current league leaders Incredibles locked in a tight battle at the top of the table. Incredibles currently sit three points clear at the summit having played one game more, meaning Ballzy Ladies must win their game in hand and maximize total rounders scored if they are to retain their crown. With total rounders serving as the ultimate tiebreaker should points finish level, every single run in these second-round fixtures will prove decisive.

In the most recent action on Sunday, 20 September, high-scoring performances dominated Week 3 as both title contenders delivered emphatic victories to boost their rounder tallies. Table-toppers Incredibles put on a masterclass display, powering past Catchdashians 46 to 3.5. Maxina Yon led all scorers with 8 rounders to earn Lady of the Match, while Young Lady of the Match Rhiann Joshua contributed 6 rounders to the win. Meanwhile, reigning champions Ballzy Ladies responded in style with a convincing 36.5 to 6.5 victory over Thunderbats. Renae Coleman was outstanding for Ballzy Ladies, racking up a match-high 9 rounders to claim Young Lady of the Match, supported by 5 rounders apiece from Danni Thomas and Ice Fowler. For Thunderbats, Julianne Stevens top-scored with 3 rounders and was named Lady of the Match.

The previous weekend on Sunday, 13 September, saw the title balance shift dramatically following a crucial head-to-head clash. Incredibles, who suffered a setback against Battitude in Week 1 that allowed Ballzy Ladies to temporarily move ahead, struck back with a decisive 19.5 to 11 victory over their title rivals. Following a draw between the two sides in Round 1, Chloe Thomas led the scoring for Incredibles with 5 rounders, while Tanisha Benjamin earned Lady of the Match honours in a key team effort. Katelyn Benjamin and Alayah Pidgley top-scored for Ballzy Ladies with 2 rounders each.

Also, on 13 September, Battitude edged Catchdashians 15.5 to 12.5 in a closely contested match. Young Lady of the Match Georgia Bennett top-scored for Battitude with 3.5 rounders, while Taylor Thomas and Jordana Crowie each scored 3 rounders for Catchdashians, with Shona Baldwin named Lady of the Match. With both top teams having recorded a defeat and a draw earlier in the campaign, the stage is set for a thrilling climax as the second-round progresses.





SPORTS ARENA

Golf Report

Annual Bank of St Helena Trophy Challenge


Group photo- winners


BOSH Champion
Men's Longest drive

SHGC, Contributed

This weekend, the popular Bank of St Helena Trophy Challenge was contested on Sunday during somewhat intermittent weather conditions. The competition was hotly contested by the field of thirty golfers who participated on the day.

With the good turnout, groups were split into nine; six with three players and the final three groups of four players each, with tee-off time commencing at 11.30am. The last group teed off at just before 1pm heading out onto the course with on-and-off showers challenging the golfers' abilities and sometimes patience.

As golfers arrived back to the 19th hole, Keith Joshua started preparing some pizzas to fortify the weary players, sponsored by the Bank of St Helena in addition to the cash prizes for the winners.

Once all players were back at the clubhouse it was determined that there was a three-way tie for third place. According to the competition rules, there had to be a play-off to determine who would take the third prize. Lukas Robbertse, Peter Bagley and Laura Buckley headed out to once again brave the weather to play the 18th hole. Laura and Lukas both scored a four with Peter losing out to them with a five. As it was already very late and darkness was setting in, it was agreed to share the third-place prize of £40 between Lukas and Laura, both with a net score for the day of 69.

In second place, Neil Joshua returned a net score of 67 receiving the second prize of £60. Ashton Benjamin was crowned as the winner of the trophy, title and the first prize of £100 with a great net score of 64. Ashton also had the lowest gross score with 77 shots. In addition, the prize for the men's longest drive also went to Ashton with Larry Thomas taking the prize for the men's nearest to the pin. In the ladies category, Laura Buckley won the prize for the longest drive and Anita Robbertse took the nearest to the pin.

In the two-ball pool, a total of six two's were recorded by Martin Buckley and Dax Richards on the 5th, Damien O'Bey and Larry Thomas on the 7th, Ashton Benjamin on the 14th and Larry Thomas again on the 16th.

All prizes were presented by Kimberly Peters representing the Bank of St Helena with all participants also receiving a small gift from the sponsors. The Captain of the club, Bramwell Bushuru, expressed the club's appreciation to the BOSH for their continued support and generous sponsorship of this annual event.

Next week's competition will be the Monthly Medal sponsored by the SHGC and all members are encouraged to sign up for this competition with entries closing at 3pm on Saturday, 26 September. Tee off time on Sunday will be at 12 noon. The SHGC wishes everyone a good week

and happy swinging!


Second place


Third place


Ladies nearest to the pin


Ladies Longest drive


Captain and Kimberley

Ping-Pong Player!

Deon reclaims the Crown



Deon Robbertse, Winner of the Tournament

Anita Robbertse, SAMS

On Saturday morning, Walter Barshai hosted the annual table tennis tournament at his home in Levelwood.

Walter has a room equipped with specialised flooring and a championship quality table where participants could once again compete to win this year's title.

Six candidates took part in this year's tournament where each had the opportunity to compete against every other contestant. The games started at 10am, with the eager opponents matching up against each other.

After all participants had the opportunity to play against each other, referee and organiser, Walter, tallied the scores and then announced the winners for the day.

It was a tightly contested second place with three players (Lukas Robbertse, Julian Fagan and Rudolf Pienaar) each having won the same number of games. In the end, Julian Fagan was awarded the second place. The undisputed champion of this year's competition though was last year's runner-up, Deon Robbertse – reclaiming his crown from 2024.

Deon was presented with the trophy while all participants received a t-shirt printed with art designed by Walter. Thanks goes to Walter for organising and sponsoring this annual event. In looking forward to next year's event, all table tennis enthusiasts are encouraged to watch social media and stay tuned to other media outlets not to miss out on the opportunity to compete in this annual fun and competitive event.


Rudolf Pienaar and Ed Oyewo

Benjamin completed a brilliant all-round performance by striking twice more—including a direct free-kick—to seal his hat-trick. Joey Thomas then came alive on the right wing, beating Backhouse with two sensational long-range strikes, completing a hat-trick of his own, while Scott Henry capped off a dominant midfield display by grabbing his second of the afternoon.

Jamestown continued to fight, finding joy through a low, hard direct free-kick from Louis Barnikel that fooled the keeper, before Lars Williams added a late strike—a goal that could prove crucial in the two-round league format where goal difference may come into play.

Despite HTH's attacking fireworks, it was defender Jacob Duncan who claimed Man of the Match honours following a controlled and tireless performance at the back, while Levi Williams took Young Player of the Match after adapting admirably to a new left-back role for Jamestown.

The 3.30pm encounter saw St Paul's matching HTH's goalscoring tempo with a decisive 7–3 victory over Longwood.

Longwood actually took the lead through Captain Ronan Legg, however St Paul's would go on to take full control of the match thanks to clinical finishes, with doubles from Korben Minto and Blaze Baldwin leading the way, alongside a Shane Stroud penalty and strikes from Taylan Phillips and Captain Brett Isaac.

Longwood showed plenty of character however, keeping the scoreline somewhat respectable with further goals from Hameed Ganiyu and Jude Jacobs.

St Paul's skipper, Brett Isaac, was named Man of the Match for a controlling performance, while Longwood's Jude Jacobs earned Young Player of the Match honours for his energetic display.



DISTRICT FOOTBALL RESULTS

Sunday 20 September 2026

Jamestown 3
L George, L Barnikel, L Williams
YPoM: Levi Williams

Half Tree Hollow 9
T Benjamin (3), T Brady J Thomas (3), S Henry (2)
MOM: Jacob Duncan

St Paul's 7
K Minto (2) B Baldwin (2) S Stroud, B Isaac, T Phillips
MoM: Brett Isaac

Longwood 3
R Legg, H Ganiyu, J Jacobs
YPoM: Jude Jacobs

DISTRICT FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Sunday 27 September 2026

1.30pm **HTH vs Longwood**
3.30pm **St Paul's vs Jamestown**

**Fixtures subject to weather conditions*

SPORTS ARENA



Defending the Throne

Reigning Champions HTH and St Paul's fire warning shots as District League kicks off

Liam Yon, SAMS

Rainy conditions at Francis Plain could not dampen the opening weekend of the 2026 SHFA District League, as defending champions Half Tree Hollow, along with St Paul's, delivered high-scoring statements of intent in Sunday's opening round of fixtures.

Kicking off the In the 1.30pm opening fixture, holders Half Tree Hollow went in as firm favourites, boasting a star-studded squad featuring key players from league powerhouses Bellboys and Rovers—including the island's top goal scorers, Joey Thomas and Rico Benjamin, alongside a formidable midfield of Ryan Benjamin, Tyler Benjamin, and Scott Henry. Jamestown, however, lined up with an exciting attacking trio of their own in Lars Williams, Lebron George, and Tyler Anthony.

Half Tree Hollow started with characteristic fluidity, but Jamestown looked sharp on the break and nearly struck first. A clever through ball from Kenin Yon picked out Tyler Anthony, who immediately slipped Lebron George through one-on-one with the keeper. However, HTH custodian Keith Yon produced a crucial early save to keep the game goalless.

Minutes after nearly falling behind, Half Tree Hollow took the lead. Captain Tyler Benjamin delivered a pinpoint set-piece into the box for Tyler Brady to head home. Provider soon turned scorer when Tyler Benjamin controlled a cross and, with two quick touches, finished with great composure to double the lead.

Jamestown pulled themselves back into the contest before the break when Captain Jordan Yon set up Lebron George, who made amends for his earlier miss by finishing off a neat passing move. Yet HTH responded before half-time, through a Joey Thomas strike and a goal from Scott Henry, making a late run into the box, controlling the ball and heading it over outrushing Jamestown goalkeeper Ryan Backhouse to give HTH a three-goal cushion. Despite HTH hitting the woodwork twice, Jamestown went into the interval still in contention at 4–1.

The second half proved a completely different story, as a positional reshuffle from Jamestown backfired, allowing Half Tree Hollow to run riot. Tyler

continued inside...



